WORLD SOCCER

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The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

ARGENTINA

THE WORLD CHAMPIONS IN EUROPE

ENGLAND

Back row, left to right: Phil Neal, Peter Shilton, Phil Thompson, Dave Watson, Ray Kennedy. Front row, left to right: Ray Wilkins, Trevor Francis, Steve Coppell, Tony Woodcock, Kevin Keegan, Mick Mills.

World Soccer exclusive by Keir Radnedge

HAAN SAYS 'I WANT TO PLAY'

AMONG the various papers and files of Holland manager Jan Zwartkruis is a letter guaranteed to put the wind up all those goalkeepers preparing for the European championship — and especially Dino Zoff. It's a letter from Arie Haan, the Aderlecht and one-time Ajax midfield general, saying that he'd like to be considered again for the Dutch national team.

October 11, 1978 — a 3-1 European championship win in Switzerland — remains as I write the last appearance Haan made in the orange shirt. And as the European finals are fast approaching one wonders how long Zwartkruis, his midfield falling apart, can delay making his peace with the big man whose long-range shooting created such a stir during the 1978 World Cup.

With Johan Neeskens and Wim Jansen hors de combat in the United States and Holland apparently still a long way from a settled team, let alone an obvious midfield, it would appear a very perverse piece of thinking if Haan is left behind — particularly since, despite Anderlecht's problems this season, he's been in better form than for a long time.

It remains, in fact, something of a mystery why Haan and Zwartkruis ever fell out in the first place.

As I remembered events, the 31-year-old exile had openly questioned Zwartkruis's plans for checking on his form, saying at the time: "If the management don't know me and my style of play by now, they never will."

Talking with Haan brings the impression that it was all a storm in a teacup and he would love the chance to show once again his loyalty to the Dutch team.

"It was a very long story," he says. "I wasn't enjoying my football and I wasn't playing well. Or perhaps it was the other way round: I wasn't playing well so I wasn't enjoying my football. And it's not so easy when you are playing in another country. I thought it would be better if I didn't play for the national team.

"But now I feel very differently because I'm enjoying my game again. Two months ago I wrote Zwartkruis a letter saying I'd like to play for Holland again — if he wanted to choose me, of course! It's all up to him whether I go to Italy for the finals or not. It's a problem still the fact that I play in Belgium because of the fixtures, but Zwartkruis isn't opposed to picking players who are in other leagues. Look at Frans Thijssen, from Ipswich."

But there is another matter, beyond the European championships, which is drawing Haan back towards the national team.

He says: "I don't play only for the money. There are a lot of other considerations. For example, I'm 31 now, so I shall still be only 33 in 1982 and I would very much like to make it third time lucky in the World Cup in Spain.

"The European championships and then the World Cup are my last chance to help Holland win something. It was very hard to be runners-up in the World Cup in West Germany and Argentina. I remember those defeats so well!"

It was the 1978 failure in the River Plate stadium, when Holland slipped under 3-1 to their hosts which provided Haan with the biggest disappointment of his career.

He explains: "In 1974 against West Germany in Munich it was very difficult. The Germans are a special sort of people when you give them their own stadium and their own fans. It was always going to be very hard for us — much harder than a lot of people imagined at the time.

"But in the final in Argentina I thought we had far more chances to win than they did. After they scored their first goal we had much more of the play. We equalised, we could have won. All it needed was for Rensenbrink's shot to move an inch or two and it would have gone in the goal instead of hitting the post . . . that was vital.

"I don't think there would have been time enough for Argentina to equalise. Instead, they beat us in extra time when we were tiring."

Looking back at those 1978 finals from a distance of nearly two years provided a chance to talk over some of the controversies which surrounded the Dutch at the time: Was their trouble with Happel, the coach? Did the players feel the absence of Johan Cruyff? How

● *Continued overleaf*

Arie Haan, hoping to regain his place in the Dutch national team.

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● *Continued from previous page*

upsetting were the Argentine antics at the start of the final itself?

Haan says: "The business with Happel was mostly newspaper talk. Obviously when you have a group of people forced to stay together in each other's company for more than a month there are pressures and occasionally some disagreements. But it was nothing serious. Nothing that could have split the team or in any way affected the way the coach and the players worked to try to win.

"Cruyff? I would have been very surprised if he had gone. I knew him well enough from our days at Ajax. He had said long enough in advance that he would not go to Argentina and that was that. Of course people hoped he would change his mind but I didn't expect him to, nor did most of the senior players. So it wasn't a blow for us in that sense.

"As for the business before the final, with the Argentines keeping us waiting, then complaining about the plaster on Rene Van der Kerkhof's wrist . . . well, it may have been bad manners. But it really didn't upset us.

"Only Rene perhaps. I think he became a little concerned early on whenever he touched the ball about what might happen to him. It had to affect his concentration, but not that of the team. It wasn't because of this that we lost the final."

Haan has played 35 times for Holland and if he hasn't won the World Cup then he has plenty of other awards to his name. Born in the north of Holland, in a village called Winschoeten, he was spotted by Ajax playing for the local team, WVV, and whisked off to Amsterdam to sign professional in 1967 at 18.

In his eight years Ajax won the Champions' Cup three times, Haan appearing in all three finals — as a substitute in the 1971 win over Panathinaikos, but as a full-time member of what was Europe's most admired midfield — Neeskens, Haan and Gerrie Muhren — in the victories the following years over Internazionale and Juventus. They won the Super Cup, the world club cup, the Dutch championship three times and the Cup twice.

But after the departure of Cruyff for Barcelona in 1973 the problems began. Ajax were put out of the Champions' Cup in 1973-74 by CSKA Sofia and in 1975 ("After I had a little fight with the trainer," says Haan wryly) he left before the season had even ended, for Anderlecht.

In four years he's won the Cup Winners' Cup twice, been runner-up once, won the Super Cup twice, the Belgian Cup twice yet never during Haan's stay the champions ("We've just been runners-up . . . four times!").

The prospects are no better this season, for Anderlecht have had a rough ride.

"I've been pleased with my own form," says Haan. "But it's been difficult for the team because at the start of the season we had so many injuries. Rob Rensenbrink had a lot of trouble with his knee and missed a lot of games. He's back now, but you can see he's not the same player."

When I spoke to Haan he was looking forward to the vital game against leaders Brugge on Easter Tuesday.

"If we can win that one," he said, "then we will be only three points behind, and anything could happen. But we are outsiders really. This has been the worst season we've had since I joined the club."

HAAN SAYS 'I WANT TO PLAY'

But how long will he stay? That's a worrying question for the fans, having seen the way New York Cosmos are poised to sweep star forward François Van der Elst. Anderlecht can ill afford to lose another key man, though with the Italians opening the frontiers and the Americans raiding deeper into Europe all the time, the possibility can't be denied.

Haan says: "I have a contract lasting one more year. I tried to get away at the end of last season, to the United States, or France or Spain. But the president said no. He said I was too valuable and they couldn't afford to let me go at any price.

"But you never know. They would never have let Van der Elst go, but because Cosmos are prepared to pay around £500,000 that's a different matter. So who knows? The Italians' transfer fees are on a different scale to those in Belgium. Maybe someone will make an offer Anderlect can't refuse.

"Certainly it's no secret that I would like to play in Italy. It is *my* country. I love the people, the places, the atmosphere. And I have good contacts with players and coaches there. Everybody knows I love the place. They all know I would like to come. What's been happening lately doesn't put me off.

"There was one club who were interested in making a bid, but so far nothing's come of it."

The Italians have a special memory for Haan, of course, for that long-range goal which ripped past Dino Zoff and turned the course of that second round World Cup game in 1978. It was, in effect, a knock-out semi-final. The winners would go into the final. Italy were a goal up a half-time but then made the monumental blunder of replacing Franco Causio, "resting" him for the final.

Certainly if Zwartkruis does reprieve Haan for the European finals it will be in midfield, where his experience could be crucial, welding together the elements of a team in transition.

And it was with his experience in mind — Haan has played teams from virtually every major footballing country as well as plenty of the minnows — that I asked for his run-down on the European finalists.

Belgium? — "Very good outsiders. In the last few years the national team hasn't done so well. They had a good, solid defence but no attack. But now they have some really useful forwards — Ceulemans, Van den Bergh and Van der Elst. Van den Bergh has done particularly well. He only plays for a small team, Lierse, but already this season he's scored 28 goals in 26 games. He's not a typical English centre-forward. But he's clever and very skilful.

"In midfield too there are a lot of good players. Van Moer is a veteran, but he's important to the team. Ludo Coeck, my colleague at Anderlecht, is fit again. Then there's Rene Vandereycken, Julien Cools, Rene Verheyen. Even if Belgium have someone injured they will have no problem finding a replacement. They could surprise a lot of people."

England? — "I didn't see the game against Spain on television. But all the people who did have gone crazy about England. From the way everyone is talking you must have a great team! And Cunningham can't get a place! England obviously have a very impressive attack with Francis, Keegan and Woodock. I'll be interested to see them in Italy."

Spain? — "I don't believe they have much hope of achieving anything. They can get the odd result when they need it. But when they go to Italy it won't be enough to try and hang on for a 0-0 draw. To reach the final you have to win and that means taking the game to your opponents. I don't think Spain have the confidence."

Italy? — "Italy have some good players but maybe we'll have to go inside the prisons to play them! — Seriously, I admire the Italian player for his technique. But apart from Bettega and Rossi they also have some workers in their team now, which hasn't always been the case in the past and that could be important for them. Tardelli works hard, so does Zaccarelli. And the player from Internazionale, Oriali, whom they've brought in is another good player and worker. They have to be favourites."

West Germany? — "I've seen them several times recently and they've impressed me very much. Different to the team we played in the World Cup in Argentina. That was an old team, on the way out. Now they have a lot of new, skilful players they look much better."

Czechoslovakia? — "I haven't seen them at all recently but you can never rule them out. Look at what happened in 1976!"

Greece? — "No problem!"

And finally, what about *Holland*?

"Holland are finding it harder and harder. When you have been runners-up twice in the World Cup everybody has seen you play and knows exactly what goes on. There are no secrets any more and the pressures are always increasing.

"I think Holland can get into the final. But they will have to be playing well and they will need some luck.

"It's hard for me to talk about the team in detail because I don't see Dutch League football. I saw on television the 3-2 win over East Germany which took Holland to Italy, and I saw the recent 0-0 draw against France. I was not overimpressed. I don't know whether Zwartkruis is on the right lines. He doesn't seem to have a settled side — though there may be factors of which he is aware and I'm not.

"Take Frans Thijssen, for example. I am told he has been playing very well in England. But he already played for the national team several years ago. He's no youngster but he's done well and he will be in the team for Italy. But to pick him is a sign that Zwartkruis is looking back and that may not be good for Holland.

"On the other hand Zwartkruis might say: 'What else can I do?' With Neeskens in New York and now Wim Jansen going to Washington to join Cruyff it's like an aircraft with two engines falling away."

Haan's tip for the finals? "It's difficult. There is always some outsider who springs a surprise. Maybe it could be Czechoslovakia, or Belgium. But I think the last four will be Italy, West Germany, England and Holland — and you'll have to work which placings out yourself. Don't ask me any more!"

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Dateline

by Keir Radnedge

Argentina look for revenge

ARGENTINA, with only one win in seven games against England, will bring with them the pride to put that and a lot more right when they start their four-match European tour on May 13 at Wembley.

Uppermost in the players' minds will be the wish to wipe away memories of 1966 and all that. For that 1-0 World Cup quarter final defeat has long since gone down in the annals of historic — or notorious — games both sides of the Atlantic.

Argentina returned just before the 1974 World Cup to draw 2-2 after being 2-0 down, but there was some dispute about that game too for the equaliser came from a late penalty awarded by the Argentines' own referee, Arturo Iturralde.

That was the game in which Mario Kempes first hit Europe, a 19-year-old with legs like tree trunks who hit both their goals and went on to greater things four years later.

Kempes won't be there this time, nor that other World Cup hero Osvaldo Ardiles, of Tottenham. Sentiment has no place with Cesar Menotti: he's interested only in creating a team of players whose presence in Argentina until after the 1982 World Cup Finals is already assured.

These are the squad of 28 whom Menotti named at the end of last year and who have been in squad training for the European tour which also takes in games against Austria, Greece and the Republic of Ireland.

Argentina have a unique claim as holders of the senior and youth World Cups, and Menotti is already working on an amalgam of talents.

Youth winners Diego Maradona, Ramon Diaz, Juan Simon and Juan Barbas are likely to be in the tour squad, which had yet to be finalised at the time of writing. And yet Menotti — assuming he can sort out his tug-of-war with River Plate for Passarella and Co who also have the Libertadores Cup on their minds — also has the backbone of the World Cup-winners.

Diego Maradona.

Certainly he won't go back to his experimental team which was so unimpressive in last year's South American championship . . . with one or two exceptions, the most exciting being Maradona.

A member of Menotti's original 40 and then 25-man squads before the 1978 World Cup, Maradona was bitterly upset to be left out of the final 22. Menotti thought he wasn't quite ready for the pressure and felt justified by Maradona's reaction at being left out.

Since then Maradona has starred in the world youth cup, on last year's spring European tour, and been elected South American player of the year.

This tour could be the launching pad for him to become the undisputed world No. 1 — and Wembley and England provide a most appropriate a stage for him to show off his potential.

ARGENTINA'S NATIONAL SQUAD

Goal	*Club*	*Age*	*Caps*
UBALDO FILLOL	River Plate	29	18
HECTOR BALEY	Independiente	29	10
Defence			
DANIEL PASSARELLA	River Plate	26	35
HUGO VILLAVERDE	Independiente	26	5
JORGE OLGUIN	Independiente	27	37
ABELARDO CARABELLI	Argentinos Juniors	19	0
JUAN SIMON	Newells Old Boys	29	0
JOSE VAN TUYNE	Rosario Central	25	6
ALBERTO TARANTINI	River Plate	24	38
VICTOR OCANO	Talleres	25	3
Midfield			
CARLOS FREN	Independiente	25	0
RICARDO BOCHINI	Independiente	26	20
DIEGO MARADONA	Argentinos Juniors	19	11
AMERICO GALLEGO	Newells Old Boys	25	50
JUAN BARBAS	Racing Buenos Aires	20	8
CARLOS ISCHIA	Velez Sarsfield	24	0
OSVALDO ESCUDERO	Velez Sarsfield	19	0
MIGUEL A. OVIEDO	Talleres Cordoba	29	6
JOSE D. VALENCIA	Talleres	24	21
PATRICIO HERNANDEZ	Estudiantes de la Plata	24	2
Forwards			
LEOPOLDO LUQUE	River Plate	31	38
RAMON A. DIAZ	River Plate	20	2
OSCAR ORTIZ	River Plate	27	23
NORBERTO OUTES	Independiente	26	2
OSVALDO RINALDI	San Lorenzo	20	2
MIGUEL CALDERON	Racing Buenos Aires	20	0
HUMBERTO BRAVO	Talleres	29	5
ANGEL BOCANELLI	Talleres	26	0

ENGLAND v ARGENTINA

1951	Wembley	2-1
1953	Buenos Aires	0-0 (aban. 21 min)
1962	Rancagua, Chile	3-1 — World Cup
1964	Rio de Janeiro	0-1
1966	Wembley	1-0 — World Cup
1974	Wembley	2-2
1977	Buenos Aires	1-1

ARGENTINA SINCE THE WORLD CUP
(All games in 1979)

2-1 v Bulgaria (h)
0-0 v Holland (Berne, FIFA anniversary)
2-2 v Italy (a)
0-0 v Rep. Ireland (a)
3-1 v Scotland (a)
1-2 v Bolivia (a — South American Ch'ship)
1-2 v Brazil (a — SAC)
3-0 v Bolivia (h — SAC)
2-2 v Brazil (h — SAC)
1-2 v W. Germany (a)
2-4 v Yugoslavia (a)
Played 11, Won 4, Drawn 3, Lost 4, For 17, Agst 16.

Local boy makes good!

by Arthur Rotmil

THE STORY of Jupp Heynckes, the former famous international forward and now at 34 the youngest team manager in the West German Bundesliga, may well be entitled — "local boy makes good".

Heynckes hails from Mönchengladbach, he rose to fame with the local club Borussia whom he served, with one exception, until his retirement from active football and which he now leads hopefully to new glory. The Gladbacher won the UEFA-Cup last season and have also reached the semi-finals this term; there was understandably great excitement at the prospect that this triumph might be repeated.

Heynckes is certainly held in high regard all over the country for his fine work with a largely rebuilt team. At the end of the 1977-78 season several established stalwarts left the club: Wimmer and Wittkamp (who both returned to amateur football), Bonhof sold to Valencia and Heynckes himself who became assistant manager. Last year Vogts became the coach to the DFB, Kleff joined Hertha Berlin, and the famous Dane Simonsen was transferred to Barcelona.

Nonetheless, Heynckes managed to keep up the high standards set by his predecessors, as team boss. In the most insecure profession within football, he has already established himself as a respected "Trainer" (German equivalent to team manager).

Josef "Jupp" Heynckes was born on May 9, 1945 at Mönchengladbach. He obtained his coaching A-licence two years ago, then spent a year as assistant at Borussia to Udo Lattek. Heynckes played for Borussia between 1965 and 1967, then three years with 'Hannover 96' and returned to Borussia in 1970, remaining active for another eight years.

Heynckes remains Borussia's record Bundesliga scorer with 195 goals. Altogether he played 369 championship matches in which he scored 220 goals and this puts him second only to the great Gerd Müller in the all-time list of Bundesliga scorers. Between 1967 Heynckes played in 39 internationals hitting 14 goals. He also has three youth caps (1966), was member of the victorious European Championship team in 1972; was in the squad for the 1974 World Cup and played in two matches.

Heynckes won four championship titles, once the DFB-Cup and once the UEFA-Cup. He made his debut in the Bundesliga on August 14, 1965 and in the national side on February 22, 1967 at Karlsruhe, against Morocco, scoring a goal in a 5-1 win. His last international — the 2-0 victory over Czechoslovakia on November 17, 1976 in Hannover.

Football has been good to Heynckes who lives in a marvellous bungalow in Windbert (Möchengladvach) which is luxuriously furnished with a heated swimming pool in the basement. His wife Iris, an attractive brunette and daughter Kerstin who was born on the same day and month as her father (May 9!), mean everything to Heynckes. The family lead a quiet life.

Mrs Heynckes who reads as a hobby Russian literature (Dostoievski, Tolstoy, Pushkin) has also learned Spanish and with her husband English. She met Jupp when she was only 14.

Heynckes comes from a family of ten children, his father as a blacksmith had to work hard to support them all, so his son has been brought up to appreciate a better standard of living. He had to learn a trade (he was a stucco-worker) before becoming a professional footballer — his second dream was to be an architect. In 1963 he left the nursery team of "Grün-Weiss" (the green-and-whites) of Mönchengladbach to join Borussia, where he found himself surrounded by such future greats as Netzer, Vogts, Wittmann, Laumen, Danner and Rupp.

He left Gladbach in 1967 for Hannover "because I could earn three times as much there, as with Borussia" explains Heynckes. But it was after he returned three years later that his career took an upward swing.

Today, Haynckes is well set for the future. Apart from being a successful team manager he owns a partnership in a company manufacturing prefabricated concrete parts. He is the chief representative of PUMA, the world famous sports equipment producers, and he also owns property. He has learned to live with setbacks and adversity as a string of injuries threatened his career.

A complicated thigh injury prevented him taking part in the 1970 Mexico World Cup; pulled ligaments after the second World Cup game v. Australia, cut short his hopes of playing in the victorious world champions team in 1974; another groin injury stopped him playing in the 1976 European Championship finals. Only remarkable self-discipline and determination have helped him time and again to overcome the crisis and start anew.

The highlights of his career: First, undoubtedly helping the national team to become European champions in 1972. Then came the epic battles with Liverpool in two European finals. In the 1973 UEFA-Cup final Heynckes scored both goals in Borussia's 2-0 win, but alas, Liverpool's 3-0 first leg victory gave them the Cup. Still, one of Heynckes' goals was so brilliant, that ITV used it for years in the opening caption to their "Big Match" programme.

In 1977 Borussia lost the Champions Cup final to Liverpool by 3-1. It was Heynckes' last major international appearance. But in 1975 he helped his club to win the UEFA-Cup for the first time. After a disappointing 0-0 home draw with Twente Enschede, Borussia won the return in Holland by 5-1 — and Heynckes hit a hat-trick! He has very nearly achieved all the success a footballer can hope to gain and now hopes to make an equally indelible mark on the game, as a team manager.

Berti Vogts — one who got away.

THE ITALIAN

World Soccer special investigation

ITALIAN football hit its lowest ebb on Sunday, March 23, as a fleet of blue Alfa Romeos pulled away at high speed from a selection of stadia, containing a dozen of the country's leading players.

The Alfas were fraud squad cars, and the players were all about to spend a week in Rome's Queen of Heaven jail, implicated up to their necks in the illegal betting scandal.

"What's going on?" cried Milan president Felice Colombo as he was frog-marched off among the detainees.

That's what everyone has been asking. The answer? Simply . . . a group of men aiming to make big money on the illegal football betting market allegedly paid top players to bend the results of games; however, the players took the money without always fixing the matches and those who *did* apparently profiteered on the Totonero themselves.

Each week Italians spend £3 million on Totocalcio, the above-board national-organised betting organisation. But around £900,000 is invested in the illegal system — with disastrous results apparently for two of the betting syndicate who claimed they lost £1 million because the players didn't "play ball".

The two men who blew the gaff, Massimo Cruciani and Alvaro Trinca, soon implicated major players and clubs — right up to champions Milan, who were in the European dock not long ago for the gifts they pressed on Scottish referee John Gordon.

The revelations threatened:

1 – To force the punitive relegation of Milan, Lazio, Perugia and Avellino;

2 – To land more than a dozen stars with life suspensions;

3 – To force the federation to give up the European championship finals;

4 – To force the resignation of federation and UEFA president Artemio Franchi;

5 – To force the cancellation of the league championship in mid-competition;

6 – To destroy reputations even as far as new golden boy Paolo Rossi.

THE HISTORY . . .

Manipulation of results, for various ends, has not been a speciality just of the Italians.

England in the early 1960s saw sine die bans for two England internationals, centre half Peter Swan and half back Tony Kay.

Less than ten years later the youthful West German *Bundesliga* was knocked groggy by the Bielefeld-Schalke affair, a bribes scandal blown open by the suicidal honesty of Kickers Offenbach president Horst Gregorio Canellas, who produced incriminating tape recordings astonished Press conference members. Klaus Fischer, the luckless Schalke spearhead, was one of those implicated whose career suffered for years under a cloud of legal wrangles.

In Spain last year there were six-month sentences for a player apiece from Rayo Vallecano and Betis Seville, implicated in a mutual plot to 'ease' results and bring both clubs out of the relegation pit to first division security. One of those players, Argentine-born Eduardo Anzarda, has recently returned to South America after a decade in Europe which started auspiciously enough at Real Madrid.

In Belgium, the old Anderlecht skipper Josef Jurion was suspended for life after allegations of match fixing while he was trainer of struggling La Louvière. And only a matter of weeks ago three top officials of the Yugoslav second division club, Radnicki, were landed with a mixture of jail sentences and hefty fines for bribery.

The World Cup hasn't escaped, though there have been no proven scandals of fixing. Still, the past couple of competitions have seen ugly rumours surrounding Brazil games, though 1978 saw them in the role of unsubstantiated accusers over that vital 6-0 win Argentina scored against Peru to get into the final.

It remains without doubt, however, that the Brazilian club Santos were undeniably helped by the appointment of the Argentine official, Juan Brozzi, to control their world club cup return against Milan in 1963. Santos, without Pele but *with* a mean streak, came back from 2-0 down in Rio to win the return under the most controversial circumstances. Brozzi, suspended by the embarrassed Argentines, never refereed again.

So let the Italians not get paranoid. They're not the only ones to be found out and they're not the only ones to be suspected but not brought to trial — as in the case of the 1974 World Cup game against Poland, when several Italian players indicated during the game that it would be made worth their opponents' while to ease off.

Italian clubs have not escaped attention for international misdemeanours. Yugoslav referee Tesanic was suspended for life after accepting a holiday at the expense of Internazionale not long after a controversial handling of their 1964 Champions' Cup tie with Borussia Dortmund in which he surprisingly overlooked a bad foul by Luis Suarez on 'Hoppy' Kurrat.

And Juventus will always be tarnished by the Lobo affair, in which the Portuguese referee received shabby treatment at official level for his complaint that the mysterious Deszo Solti had attempted to bribe him to see Juventus safely through the second leg of their 1973 Champions' Cup semi-final against Derby.

Whatever the rights and wrongs, it's been disappointing to say the least to see the lack of rigid control exerted by the Italian federation. In the 1964 Bologna doping case, all charges had to be dropped because the urine samples were mislabelled and mishandled. And there has been an extraordinary laissez-faire attitude over the death of

Massimo Crucian.

SCANDAL

THE ARRESTED

The plotters: Massimo Cruciani, aged 30, and Alvaro Trinca, 40.

The president: Felice Colombo (Milan) 42.

The players: Enrico Albertosi (Milan) 40 — Giorgio Morini (Milan) 33 — Massimo Cacciatori (Lazio) 29 — Bruno Giordano (Lazio) 24 — Lionello Manfredonia (Lazio) 24 — Giuseppe Wilson (Lazio, captain) 35 — Mauro Della Martira (Perugia) 29 — Luciano Zecchini (Perugia) 31 — Stefano Pellegrini (Avellino) 27 — Guido Magherini (Palermo) 29 — Sergio Girardi (Genoa) 34 — Claudio Merlo (Lecce) 34.

THE IMPLICATED

Players: Gianfranco Casarsa (Perugia), Renzo Garlaschelli (Lazio), Fernando Viola (Lazio), Paolo Rossi (Perugia), Cesare Cattaneo (Avellino), Franco Cordova (Avellino), Salvatore Di Somma (Avellino), Claudio Pellegrini (Avellino), Franco Colomba (Bologna), Giuseppe Dossena (Bologna), Adelmo Paris (Bologna), Carlo Petrini (Bologna), Giuseppe Savoldi (Bologna), Giuseppe Zinetti (Bologna), Andrea Agostinelli (Napoli), Oscar Damiani (Napoli), Paolo Ammoniaci (Palermo), Francesco Brignani (Palermo), Lionello Massimelli (Taranto), Zelico Petrovic (Taranto), Giovanni Quadri (Taranto), Renzo Rossi (Taranto).

Coach: Marino Perani (Bologna).

Other: Cesare Bartolucci (friend of Della Martira).

ALSO TO BE QUESTIONED

Presidents: Corrado Ferlaino (Napoli), Giampiero Boniperti (Juventus), Masimo Fabbretti (Bologna).

General managers: Riccardo Sogliano (Bologna), Nardino Previdi (Brescia).

Coaches: Giovanni Trapattoni (Juventus), Bob Lovati (Lazio).

Referee: Gino Menicucci.

Players: Vincenzo D'Amico (Lazio), Giorgio Chinaglia (New York Cosmos, ex-Lazio), Lamberto Boranga (Parma, ex-Lazio), Mario Frustalupi (Pistoiese, ex-Lazio), Giancarlo Oddi (Cesena, ex-Lazio).

Also: Ferruccio Cruciani (plotter's father).

Genoa goalkeeper Sergio Giradi.

the Ascoli midfielder Renato Curi. He collapsed, dying from a heart attack, midway through a league match against Juventus. He had long been known to have a cardiac weakness, yet had been astonishingly allowed to play on.

Perhaps that is digression. But despite years of rumours only a few times have the authorities come down heavily on match-fixing.

In 1927 Torino won the league only to have the title 'revoked' because they had allegedly bought Juventus full back Luigi Allemandi in a crucial derby. Allemandi was suspended sine die, though the ban didn't last long and he returned to play for Italy and captain Ambrosiana-Inter for many more years. The case has since been used as an example of competitive pressure because Torino were supposed to be desperate to enter the Mitropa Cup. In fact the Mitropa hadn't got under way!

After the war Napoli had their relegation confirmed in 1948 for buying a 1-0 win over Bologna. But the major scandal, until now, came in 1955.

Milan had won the title with a brilliant team built around Nils Liedholm, Gunnar Nordahl and Juan Schiaffino, though they had been given a lively chase by the surprising Udinese, inspired by the Swede, Arne Selmonsson, and the Norwegian, Per Bredesen — who subsequently joined Milan.

Yet before the next season had begun both Udinese and Catania — who had finished halfway up *Serie A* — had been relegated in a bribes judgment. Udinese's crime was in buying two games that season (1-0 v Atalanta, 2-0 v Genoa) and one the previous year, against Pro Patria.

That match was the classic in which referee De Bernardi commented afterwards, so convinced was he of 'funny business', that: "I felt like putting away my whistle and leaving them to it."

Catania's 1955 punishment was also for fixing, the previous season, one of the 150 games bent, according to his own boast, by a Catania fan and security official, Gegio Gaggiotti. The peculiar thing about Gaggiotti was that he didn't pull the strings for money, but for peculiar enjoyment of his own.

Like the Foggia-Avellino game, which Avellino sold for a sum of money which they passed directly to a local priest so he could add a bell-tower on to his church!

There was also a more serious case in the first division in the early 1970s when Sampdoria, penalised three points

● *Continued overleaf*

THE ITALIAN

World Soccer special investigation

● **Continued from previous page**
because of a bribe attempt the previous season, were saved from relegation because both Verona and Foggia were later caught out themselves trying to bend results. The Foggia case was of particular interest because their offence was offering a valuable watch to the referee Gino Menicucci (of whom, more later).

But there had never been anything to match the present saga. . . .

THE MATCHES . . .

Nov. 22, 1979 — Milan 0, Roma 4. Italian Cup, and a shock result at the time.

Nov. 25, 1979 — Milan v Napoli: Game abandoned because of fog by referee Bergamo immediately *after* half-time, Milan thus no longer being responsible to refund the fans' cash.

Dec. 9, 1979 — Taranto 1, Palermo 2 (Div. II).

Dec. 30, 1979 — Avellino 2, Perugia 2.

Dec. 31, 1979 — Juventus 2, Ascoli 3. A shock in the league.

Jan. 6, 1980 — Milan 2, Lazio 1: The game around which much of the fuss centres.

Jan. 6, 1980 — Vicenza 1, Lecce 1 (Div II).

Jan. 13, 1980 — Bologna 1, Juventus 1.

Jan. 13, 1980 — Lazio 1, Avellino 1.

Jan. 13, 1980 — Genoa 1, Palermo 1 (Div. II).

Jan. 14, 1980 — Bologna 1, Juventus 1.

Feb. 10, 1980 — Bologna 1, Avellino 0.

HOW THE LID WAS LIFTED . . .

Friday, Jan. 18: The FIGC say they will use all legal means to clamp down on the use of league fixtures by illegal betting syndicates. They are prompted by a story in Il Messaggero that the Milan-Lazio game and a previous Milan-Roma cup-tie (Roma won 4-0 away) were not all they seemed.

Saturday, Jan. 19: The FIGC launch an inquiry into illegal betting. President Artemio Franchi describes suggestions that games were bent as "total fantasy".

Mon., Jan. 21: One of the Milan magistrates who questioned the circumstances of the Milan-Napoli game (abandoned) warns that he may begin preliminary inquiries into allegations surrounding illegal betting. "No player would get involved in funny business against his own team," says players' union leader, Sergio Campana.

Tues., Jan. 22: The Rome public prosecutor begins a preliminary inquiry. The FIGC name Corrado De Biase to head their own investigation. Fingers are pointed at Lazio after a newspaper story that a group of players of an unnamed club were offered £50,000 to throw a game. The report also questions the real reason why Maurizio Montesi pulled out of the Milan-Lazio game at the last minute. "These stories aren't worth even denying," says Lazio skipper Pino Wilson. "Sheer imagination."

Wed., Jan. 23: Referee Paolo Bergamo admits to the Milano inquisitors that fog at the start of the second half of the Milan-Napoli was so bad he shouldn't have restarted. In his match report he had said the fog got worse minutes after play recommenced. In Roma the prosecutor interviews the Paese Sera journalist who first published the link between illegal betting and match bending.

Thurs., Jan. 24: In Rome De Biase interviews Lazio players Montesi, Wilson and international striker Bruno Giordano. Lazio try to deny the meetings. Later it emerges that De Biase also interviewed Italy stopper Leonello Manfredonia and Lazio coach Bob Lovati. All five denied any involvement in match fixing or betting. Because of the fuss, the clubs and the league postpone their decisive meeting on whether to readmit foreigners. Milan, Roma, Juventus, Avellino, Fiorentina, Bologna and *Serie B* Genoa, Palermo, Lecce, Pistoiese, Como and Foggia are listed as next targets for the investigators.

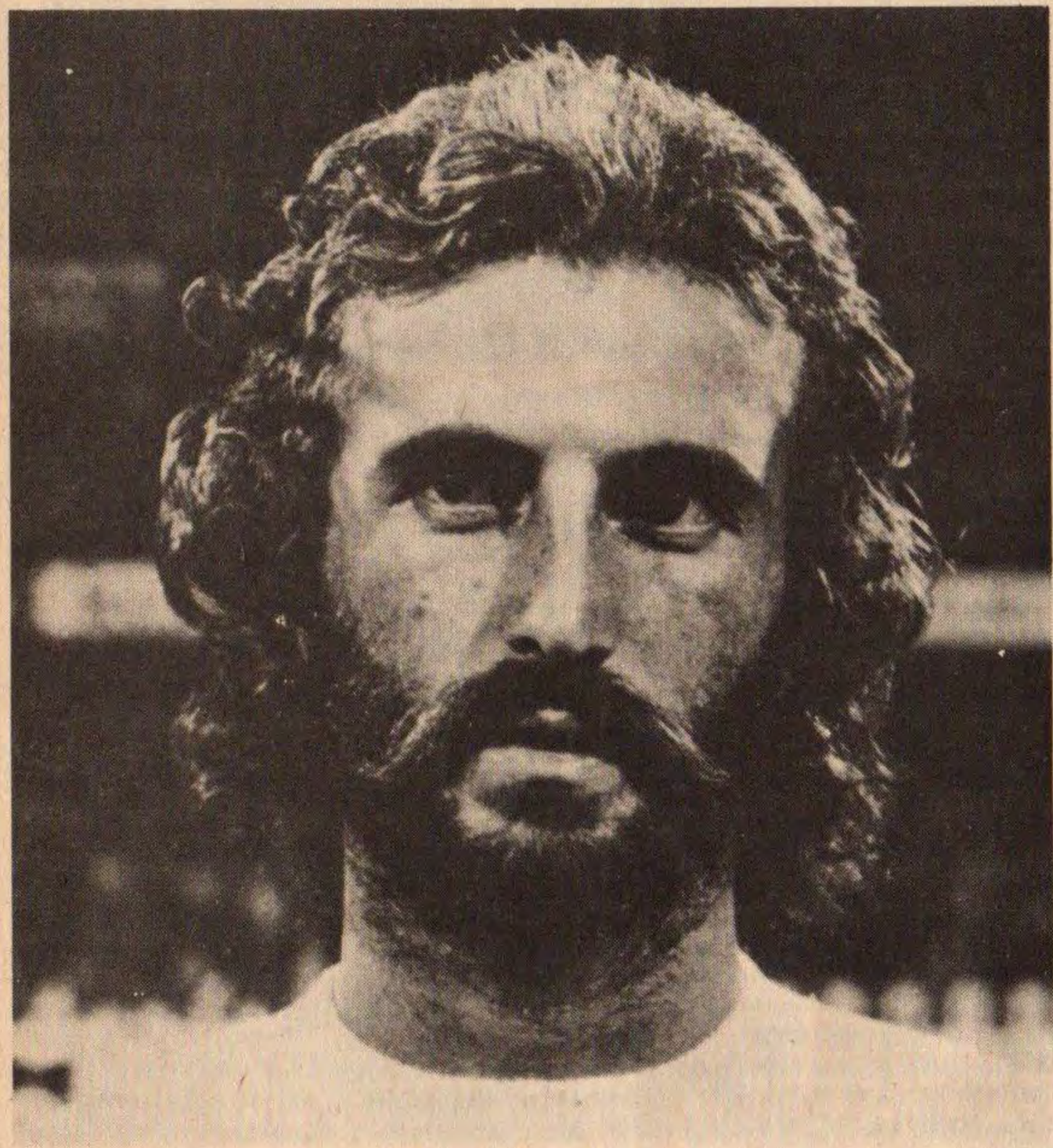
Wed., Jan. 30: All the various inquiries reach an apparent dead-end. No one will talk out of turn. The storm appears to have blown over . . .

Fri., Feb. 1: With a delay over the decision on foreigners, Juventus sound out the chances of buying Paolo Rossi from Perugia/Vicenza; Milan inquire discreetly about the availability of Giordano.

Tues., Feb. 5: Public prosecutor Giovanni De Matteo admits: "I've no idea which way to turn." But he confirms that the fraud squad are still beavering away.

Fri., Feb. 9: The FIGC disciplinary commission examine an appeal against suspension by Pescara coach Gustavo Giagnoni — for insulting referee Gino Menicucci — and *extend* his ban until the end of July. Giagnoni had accused Menicucci of favouring their opponents in a game against Udinese.

Mon., Feb. 11: Referee Bergamo is cleared of deliberately intending to defraud the San Siro fans at Milan-Napoli. However the Milano prosecutor says that if fans want their money back it's up to them to take civil



Luciano Zecchini.

SCANDAL

Left to right: Felice Colombo, President of Milan, Enrico Albertosi and Giorgio Morini of Milan.

action against Bergamo individually.

Wed., Feb. 21: Milan decide to drop Ricky Albertosi and sell him at the season's end to a second division club. "I leave Milan in second place in the table. I hope they hang on to it," he says cryptically.

Sun., Feb. 24: Lazio draw 1-1 away to Cagliari — Montesi is carried off in the 18th minute suffering from a broken leg.

Sun., Mar. 2: THE EXPLOSION . . . 27 top players are named in a formal complaint to the Rome prosecutor as having been involved in match fixing on behalf of an illegal betting syndicate. They include 21 players from *Serie A* (Paolo Rossi, Beppe Savoldi, Albertosi and six Lazio men) and six from *Serie B*. The complaint is filed by a lawyer on behalf of two men said to be in fear for their lives. Fruiterer Massimo Cruciano and restaurateur Alvaro Trinca claim in a deposition that they lost £900,000 because players reneged on match-fixing agreements. The players risk jail terms of up to three years should successful prosecutions for fraud follow. The *Serie A* clubs involved are Lazio, Bologna, Milan, Avellino, Perugia and Napoli. "My name on the list?" asks Rossi. "There must be some mistake. I didn't even know there *was* a scandal!"

Mon., Mar. 3: The investigation is handed over to assistant prosecutor Arnaldo Bracci. Initial reactions are of disbelief.

Tues., Mar. 4: Franchi says: "A lawyer warned us there was something in the air. If any player is proved guilty he will never play football again." Meanwhile a number of players and the Milan club threaten legal action to protest their innocence. Montesi admits to a newspaper that he refused to play against Milan, feigning injury, because he developed cold feet about helping sell the game for his £3,000 share in Lazio's bribe. Later he *denies* having said any such thing.

Wed., Mar. 5: La Repubblica, the paper who ran the original Montesi story, now print a transcript of a phone call in which Montesi is told how it will appear in print, and raises no objections.

Thurs., Mar. 6: Neither Cruciani or Trinca turn up for their appointed interview with the public prosecutor. Meanwhile Giagnoni produces an anonymous letter sent to him after the Pescara-Udinese game accusing rèferee Menicucci of being implicated in the match-bending.

Fri., Mar. 7: Cruciani and Trinca fail to turn up again and arrest warrants are issued. Menicucci responds to Giagnoni's claim by saying: "The only thing an anonymous letter is any use for is making a paper aeroplane." Lazio's general manager Franco Janich asks: "How can this happen to me again?" Janich was, as a player, a figure in the 1964 Bologna dope controversy.

Sun., Mar. 9: Trinca is arrested and held by police. Menicucci is ordered to turn up for questioning by the prosecutor's office.

Tues., Mar. 11: After questioning Trinca for five hours, the fraud squad turn up cheque stubs and other documentary evidence at his home. Giagnoni's lawyer, Dal Lago, claims proof now that Menicucci had been involved in a personal fix for several years.

Wed., Mar. 12: Cruciano is arrested. The prosecutor's office want the FIGC to put their inquiry on ice for a month and call in De Biase for discussions on pooling information.

Sat., Mar. 15: As a result of their interviews with Trinca and Cruciani, the prosecutors send prominent officials warnings that they may be required to give evidence. Among the officials are Giampiero Boniperti (Juventus president) and Felice Colombo (Milan). Rumours that Giordano is to be arrested on the pitch at the end of Italy's 1-0 friendly win over Uruguay turn out to be false.

Tues., Mar. 18: Nardino Previdi, general manager of Brescia, is arrested for refusing to back up allegations about Menicucci's "price list" made to the lawyer, Dal Lugo.

Wed., Mar. 19: The wall of silence starts breaking down. Mauro Della Martira of Perugia and Stefano Pellegrini of Avellino both admit having accepted cheques from Cruciani after the teams' 2-2 draw. It's whispered that Milan may soon be in the firing line.

Thurs., Mar. 20: Milan player Giorgio Morini is discovered by the fraud squad to have paid Cruciani £10,000, soon after the Lazio game. RAI are ordered to hand over film of the games Bologna-Avellino and Taranto-Palermo.

Fri., Mar. 21: Italy's clubs vote Yes to foreigners.

Sat., Mar. 22: Previdi is freed on bail.

Sun., Mar. 23: The saddest day in Calcio's history. The flying squad make 12 arrests in the country's stadia at the end of the day's league games. The arrested — some taken away in handcuffs and all bound for a stay in Rome's Queen of Heaven prison — are: Pellegrini (Avellino), Girardi (Genoa), Cacciatori, Giordano, Manfreedonia, Wilson (Lazio), Della Martira, Zeecchini (Perugia), Magherini (Palermo) and Albertosi, Morini (Milan), as well as Milan president Felice Colombo.

Mon., Mar. 24: The FIGC announce that the season will continue. Gianni Rivera takes over as acting president of Milan.

BELGIUM

by Philip Smith

VAN DER ELST JOINS COSMOS

EVERY cloud has a silver lining, but when the news broke that arguably the best player in the Belgium, Anderlecht's Francois Van der Elst, was negotiating a move to the New York Cosmos many Belgian fans could see nothing but gloom and despondency on the horizon. Surely Cosmos would want to take immediate possession of their latest recruit and thus deny the national team the use of his unquestionable talents in the forthcoming European Championships. There seemed little chance that Cosmos would wait until late June for Van der Elst to arrive.

A lining did appear however, albeit more plated than solid silver. The agreement in conjunction with the contract signed on the afternoon of the Belgium-Poland match will allow Anderlecht the use of Van de Elst until the end of the domestic season, scheduled for May 11, and will give the Diables Rouges the full use of the player from June 1 until the end of their involvement in the Championships. In between Van der Elst may play a couple of games for his new club before joining them permanently towards the end of June.

Cosmos are having to pay dearly for the privilege of having Van der Elst in their colours. Anderlecht will receive close on £½m and just under the same amount will be paid to the player during the three year duration of his contract. Naturally enough the American side were not slow to shower praise on the player they had just spent a amall fortune on. Secretary Ypuremian stated that buying Van der Elst was no risk as he is a great player and a nice person as well. New coach Weisweiler was more eloquent in his comments, talking about Van der Elst's part in the evolution of modern football and adding that if he had remained at Cologne or elsewhere in Europe he would have wanted the Belgian in his side.

The chance to secure his financial future was reason enough for Van der Elst's choice of the Cosmos, though there is always of course the often repeated challenge of the evolving game across the Atlantic. Since making his debut for Anderlecht in 1972 Belgian Championship, Cup-winners and European Cup-winners Cup medals have entered his trophy cabinet along with some 30 international souvenirs and at the age of 25 there are certainly plenty of medals and dollars left in him.

Cosmos' gain is Anderlecht's and Belgium's loss. The Brussels club are compensated substantially and also have a couple of lucrative games lined up later in the year against their star player's new employers. The money is unlikely to remain in the bank for long however, as the probable replacement becomes available in the summer at the end of his contract. It would take a monumental effort for Lierse to retain the goalscoring talents of Erwin Van den Bergh and the thought of the current leading goalscorer in Europe lining up for Anderlecht next season does much to remove the Parc Astrid supporters' disappointment at losing Van der Elst.

No sooner do the European Championships end than the World Cup qualifiers begin, with the first game scheduled for October 15 in Dublin. While all are grateful for small mercies regarding Italy; few expect to see Van der Elst in the Belgian line-up. Indeed there is the usual speculation as to whether more players will cross the Atlantic following the first to take the leap. As the Belgian League is probably the largest importer in Europe this seems unlikely, and in any case if further players are tempted they would probably wait to see Van der Elst's fate before putting their own on the line.

Francois Van der Elst.

For national trainer Guy Thys is the sobering thought that however well the team fares in Italy, he will almost certainly have to change the pattern for the World Cup matches. In the meantime the results keep coming, the latest victory being a 2-1 home defeat of a Polish side lacking their exiles and with both Boniek and Zmuda apparently injured, the only familiar face in the team was that much capped warrior Lato.

Despite having only played one game in six weeks for Beringen, Thys gambled on the fitness of Van Moer and ended up backing a winner, as without doubt the veteran Belgian captain was the man of the match. His midfield partnership with Anderlecht's Ludo Coeck was a revelation, and until Van Moer was replaced these two had controlled the game. It was Coeck who opened the scoring with a fine 25-yard effort and when Van den Bergh scored the second soon after the resumption it looked all over.

The Poles then decided to step up a gear and soon after pulled a goal back when Lato knocked in a rebound following a weak parry by Belgian keeper Custers. Van den Bergh then proceeded to miss the penalty he had won with another spectacular tumble and when Van Moer departed the Poles gave the home defence a harrowing final 20 minutes without being able to equalise.

The performance satisfied Thys: "We have put on a very good show this evening. Certainly the end of the game was a little difficult, but don't forget the Polish side are really talented."

Turning to individual performances, he explained that by switching left-back Renquin to sweeper at half-time and bringing on Martens, he now had a number of defensive permutations available. It can be assumed that the places of Gerets and Meeuws are secure, and depending on the opposition Thys will probably perm any two from Renquin, Martens or Luc Millecamps. Van der Elst had a quiet match, not surprising considering he hadn't trained for three days. He was just happy to be out on the park, secure in the knowledge he had finalised future plans.

Looking ahead, the trainer seemed in a confident mood." We have carried off six successive victories and have proven that we have sufficient talent to begin to impose our own style of play. The three recent friendlies have served us very well — we can now go to Italy without an inferiority complex." A further friendly has been arranged against Rumania in Brussels on June 6 and providing there are no disasters or injuries Thys stated that the team chosen for that game will be the one to face England in Turin six days later.

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from PAUL GARDNER in New York

INDOOR SOCCER RULES ... OK?

IT SEEMS that this past winter has seen the birth of a sports phenomenon in the United States. A sport has been discovered that, in the words of one drooling commentator in New York, will sweep aside both ice hockey and basketball, to become America's most popular winter sport. At the centre of all this excitement is a game that has been around in the rest of the world for decades . . . indoor soccer.

Ah, but what sort of indoor soccer you will no doubt ask? An excellent question, because the whole concept of the indoor game is extremely vague. There are no generally accepted international rules, with a formidable international body waiting to crucify those who don't obey them. And it is precisely that situation that is making indoor soccer so attractive to certain American promoters. (Well, look here, when you talk about sport in the United States, you are going to be talking about promoters and that's all there is to that.)

Anyway, the promoters — not all of them, but a persistently vocal number of them — find in indoor soccer the very thing that they cannot find in the outdoor sport. Or perhaps I should say the thing that they are not *allowed* to find in outdoor soccer. To wit: they can play around with the rules. Whatever the detractors of the North American Soccer League may say about it, the inescapable fact remains that it has done very little in the way of altering the rules.

The nonsensical 35-year-line-offside change is the only one of any consequence. Virtually all the other differences between the American game and the game played elsewhere have to do with the marketing of the sport (well, I'm sorry, but I have to talk about marketing, too), in other words with the surrounding of the sport, with its packaging, with the business of making it attractive to American fans. Cheerleaders, running commentaries, marching bands, hot-dogs . . . these are really reflections of cultural matters more than attempts to do damage to the structure of soccer.

After all, Americans have not been sitting around for 100 years waiting for soccer to appear. They have developed their own sports, and they have been going out to stadiums for a hell of a long time. And when they go to the stadiums they expect a certain atmosphere and they expect certain comforts and services. For soccer not to supply them would simply mean that the fans would not come, and soccer would fail.

I happen to think that the NASL has been remarkably restrained in its approach to soccer . . . because, very clearly, the pressures to start making wild changes, to say the hell with the rest of the world, we'll go our own way, have been there right from the start. And when you have a league in which the majority of the clubs (i.e. promoters) are losing money, the temptation to tamper is strong indeed.

It is a temptation which need not be resisted at all as far as indoor soccer is concerned. In the absence of any universal rules, the promoters can do more or less what they like. They are free to manufacture, to tailor, a game that they judge will be supremely attractive to *American* fans.

Whether one likes, or does not like, the product they have come up with, does not alter the fact that a highly interesting experiment is going on. I should put my cards on the table, I suppose. I have seen, over the past two years, nine indoor soccer games as played under what I'll call "American" rules. Suffice, for the moment, to say that I am not a fan. I shall return to my objections to the sport later — let me now try to give an unbiased account of the growth and nature of American indoor soccer.

There are four discernible influences at work. One, which I have already touched on, is the desire to make soccer more American. What is meant here is a desire to see more scoring, more goal-mouth action. The second influence has been architecture: there are now many indoor arenas all over the USA which house ice-hockey teams, where the playing area is designed to accommodate the 200 x 85ft rink.

That fact, then, has decreed that the size of the indoor soccer field should be the same. The ice-covered surface can be used because of the third influence, that of technology, which allows an artificial-turf surface to be laid down and taken up with astonishing quickness. The fourth influence is simply that of money: now that the NASL clubs have so many players on 12-month contracts, it is positively wasteful to use them only during the six-month outdoor season.

So we have a game played on artificial turf in hockey arenas. This has meant that thoughts have been turned, quite naturally I suppose, to incorporating some of the features of ice hockey. So, the boards which surround the playing area (they are about four feet high) are an integral part of the indoor game — the ball bounces off them — remains in play. Indeed, the boards become an essential part of tactics, being useful for a literal wall-pass, or used rather in the way that the cushions can be used in billiards.

The areas of the arena where the hockey teams sit now house masses of soccer players waiting their chance to play, for substitution is constant and massive. Only six (the same number as in ice-hockey) can be on the field at any one time, but up to 16 players are available for action. Then, of course, there is the penalty box. The referee can decide whether to send a player to the "sin-bin" for either two or five minutes, according to the seriousness of the offence.

When that happens, the team plays a man short, creating the opportunity for "power plays" by the numerically superior opponents. Exactly as in ice hockey. All the outdoor fouls apply indoors, plus the violation of "boarding", which means crunching an opponent into the boards. There is also a two-minute "delay-of-game" penalty if a player deliberately boots the ball into the crowd. The goal itself is 12 feet wide, and six feet six inches high. The normal outdoor ball is used, and the game is played in four 15-minute quarters.

Whenever the ball is not actually in play, the clock — a large digital affair on the scoreboard, clearly visible to fans and players alike — is stopped. The field contains a reduced penalty area, with the spot only eight yards from the goal-line. Thirty feet each side of the halfway line are two parallel red lines; no pass is permitted to cross over all three lines, something that is designed to prevent a series of long boots from one end of the field to the other.

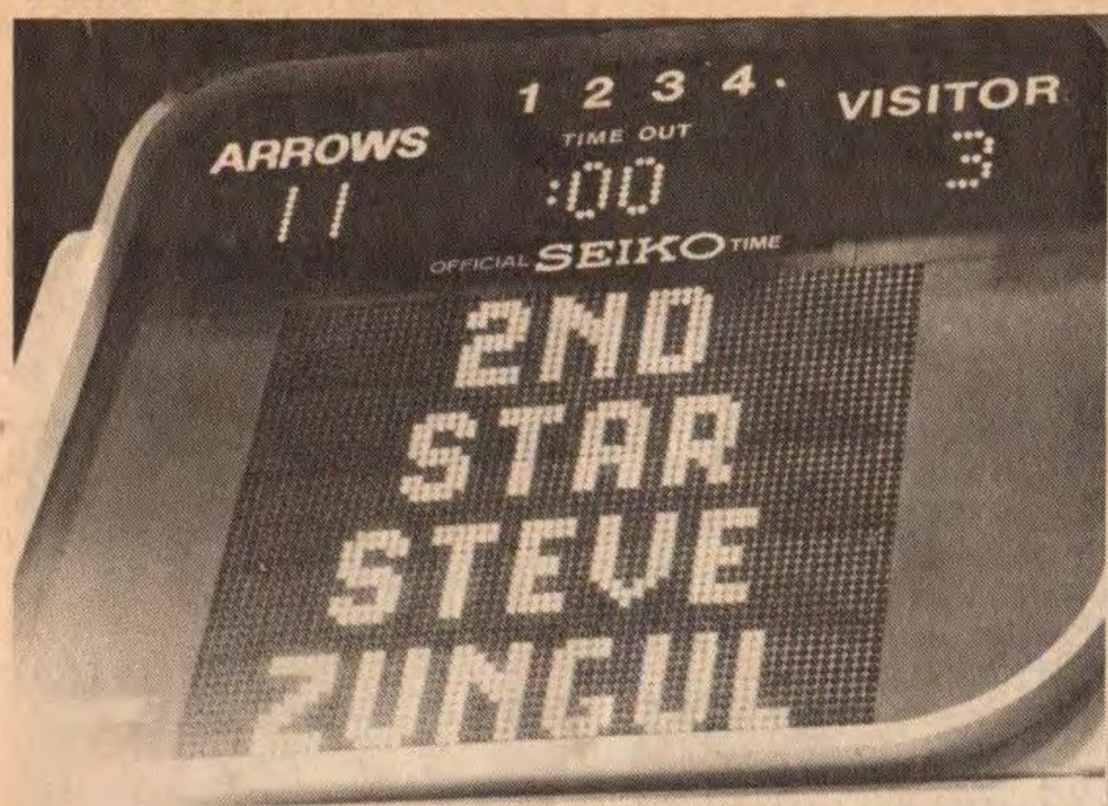
There you have the bare bones of the sport. They are fleshed out with constant action and a barrage of noise that gives a game a sort of *son et lumiere* atmosphere. It is very much a show-biz production with flashing scoreboard, organ music, organised cheering and the like. All of this is something that one either likes or one does not — but which, if the game itself is absorbing enough, should be marginal to the occasion.

Before getting to the game itself, a word or two on just how indoor soccer is organised in the States. For years — it seems almost since its birth in 1967 — the North American Soccer League has been making noises about running an indoor league in the off-season. The noises are usually at their loudest in the summer, and tend to become muted when winter rolls around and it is time to put up the money.

The result of that has been a series of half-hearted attempts over the years to get the league going. Finally, in 1978-79, a national league did get off the ground — but it was not run by the NASL. Another group of promoters formed the Major Indoor Soccer League (MISL), and operated with moderate success from December until March. Success enough for them to return this past winter with an expanded league of ten teams (up from six last year). And success enough to at last force the hand of the NASL.

Even so, the response of the NASL was yet again somewhat tepid. They *did* get a league going — but it featured only ten of their 24 clubs. Next year, we are told, things will be different and most of the clubs will participate. Well, we've heard that before, and it seems certain that there will be one notable absentee — the Cosmos — who like to use the off-season for their profitable overseas tours.

The news that most of the NASL clubs will field indoor teams next year is not good for the MISL because, in a situation rather typical of the muddle that surrounds the sport at the moment, many of MISL's best players were on loan from NASL clubs. If it seems to you somewhat silly for the NASL to assist a competing league, let me mention another aspect. More than one NASL club found it a welcome financial relief to have their players being paid by another club for a limited period. In at least one case — the San Diego Sockers, who loaned not only players but also their coach to the MISL's Hartford Hellions — it was the difference between folding or survival.



The game is over — the New York Arrows have beaten Pittsburgh Spirit by 11-3 . . . the scoreboard hanging over the centre of the arena is announcing the stars of the game.

New York Arrows versus Pittsburgh Spirit. Curtis Leeper of the Spirit (left) with Luis Alberto of the Arrows. Pictures by Richie Casanas.

So what of the game itself? Again, to be scrupulously fair to indoor soccer, I suppose one ought to dismiss all thoughts of comparing it with the outdoor sport. It is *not* the same game, it is not meant to be the same game, and its proponents tend to get hot under the collar when one compares the two. In theory they are right — indoor soccer should stand on its own merits. But in practice it is always going to be measured against the outdoor game. The only way that will ever cease is if a whole new generation of indoor fans and indoor players is created who have never seen, know nothing of, and don't give a damn about, the outdoor game. Not too likely a scenario, I would say.

I, for one, find that I inevitably bring a knowledge of the outdoor sport to my watching of the indoor game. One grows accustomed over the years to certain things happening, one expects certain sequences, one waits for this play or that, one anticipates this or that pass . . . all this personal playing of the game in one's own mind is part of the enjoyment of watching soccer, of indeed any sport. And when those expected nuances, those awaited moves, those looked-for passes just don't happen, one is entitled to feel cheated or at least disappointed.

So there is a starting problem, as far as I am concerned, with indoor soccer. But I don't think it is insurmountable. *If* the indoor game is as fast-moving, as crammed with action and skill and excitement as its boosters would have us believe, then I think I would soon be swept along by it with only fleeting moments of thought about the outdoor game.

Over the past two years I have watched, as I said, nine indoor soccer games. I have experienced short, brief moments of excitement, slightly longer moments of curious interest, periods of indifference and — mostly — sheer boredom.

My dissatisfaction with the sport seems to me to be partly a result of an unfavourable comparison with the outdoor game, and partly because I find indoor soccer — as at present played — a sport without a soul, a heartless synthetic affair.

My colleague, Dave Hirshey, of the *New York Daily News*, put it brilliantly: disco soccer. A game played at frenetic pace, with little time for thought or elegance, accompanied by all sorts of noises from the PA, vapid organ chords, hysterical shrieks from the announcer. It *is* disco.

Of course, the promoters have got what they want when it comes to scoring goals — the average for MISL games this past season was just under 12 per game. Which should be good, but which merely underlines that when you make something easy you devalue it. With scorelines of 11-7 or 9-6, one finds oneself struggling to remember what the final score was, and who did the scoring and frequently the exact nature of the goals themselves. The build-up, the rising expectations — it *does* all happen rapidly, but is it *too* rapid? For my taste it is. I come back to the word "synthetic". Can any sport, can anything, be that exciting, at that sustained a pitch for that long? Of course, the announcer accompanying the action is trying to convince us that we are on the edge of our seats for the entire game. But a look at the crowd shows something very different indeed.

I am talking here about the crowds at the New York Arrows games. The Arrows are the two-time MISL champions, the cream of the league. Their average crowd this season was 7,813. I suspect that a fair proportion of that crowd was there on complementary tickets, or at least as part of large groups. No matter — the crowd was predominantly young, and very representative of suburban America — which, we are told, is the heartland of the soccer boom.

Whenever I found my attention wandering from the game, which I did quite often, I took a close look at the crowd. Did I see tense, white faces, absorbed in the game, nails being bitten off and breath being held? No, not a bit of it. I saw kids throwing paper darts, drinking soda, talking to each other, wandering off to buy more soda.

A visit under the stands at any time during the games always found crowds of kids ther, oblivious to the game, talking or just running about. Not surprisingly, the atmosphere of such an inattentive crowd was a bit odd. A sort of continual background noise, which seemed to become really animated only when the disc-jockey — er, the announcer, shrieked the news that yet another goal had been scored.

Well, so what if I am right and indoor soccer is a sports version of disco? Why should that concern anyone, after all disco is wildly popular. Agreed. But disco is also very obviously a fad, a passing vogue that will soon be replaced by some new — and possibly even more witless — form of entertainment. It is a "taste" that has been largely pushed on us by commercial interests who will move their immense power elsewhere the moment they see a more promising way of making money. What will happen to indoor soccer when its novelty wears off?

Looking first on the bright side. It could be that the quality of play will improve. That would demand quite a substantial influx of top players into both leagues. That could happen, and I think would produce a much better, more skilful and more attractive game. The New York Arrows have one superb player in their team — the Yugoslav international Steve Zungul — and several very good players. When these combine, one begins to see possibilities for indoor soccer. But there are not many Steve Zunguls around — and even if there were, would they want to play indoors?

For there is clearly a rather menacing aspect of the game, that of serious injury. The problem seems to have been increased, oddly enough, by the supposedly soft artifical turf. When indoor soccer is played on boards, the threat of hurting oneself or collecting a few splinters is obvious, all the players know it, and there is an element of sensible caution about their play. But it seems that once the inviting-looking carpet goes down, players start chucking themselves about more robustly, and the risk of injury rises.

Which brings me to the second, and less acceptable, route for the future of indoor soccer. If injuries do become a major problem (or, more menacingly, even if they don't) I am pretty certain there will be a move towards equipping the players with protective clothing. A pad here, a guard there, maybe a soft plastic helmet. But how long would it

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WEST GERMANY

by Arthur Rotmil

SUCCESS AGAIN FOR TOP CLUBS

WEST GERMAN football celebrates a unique triumph at club level. For the first time in the history of European competitions all four semi-finalists in the the UEFA Cup — including the current League — the Bundesliga. Bayern Munich opposed Eintracht Frankfurt and VfB Stuttgart played Borussia Mönchengladbach the holders of the trophy.

This remarkable achievement also means that next season the West Germans will again be entitled to enter five clubs in the UEFA-Cup — including the current winner. This already happened this season and the fifth Bundesliga representative (Kaiserslautern) was knocked out by another German club (Bayern Munich)! The Bundesliga clubs have amassed so many points in the new table run by the European Union on past performances, that they will regularly grace the UEFA tournament with maximum representation. Behind them several countries are losing their full complement, others, including England are hoping to regain their quota.

In addition, the Hamburger SV also reached the semi-finals of the Champions Cup and thus five West German teams were in semis this term — exactly like a year ago when also five German clubs had reached this stage: One in the Champions Cup, one in the Cup Winners tourney and three in the UEFA Cup!

Hamburg had high hopes of winning this particular trophy for the first time and also to repeat their Bundesliga championship triumph of last season. Their outstanding player recently was not Keegan, or Kaltz, but Horst Hrubesch. This tall (6ft 2in) centre-forward built like a heavyweight (88kg) especially dangerous in the air, has scored, as I write, 16 goals in 25 Bundesliga games and is in the running for the "golden cannon" award as the top striker. Hrubesch, just turned 29 and nicknamed "Das Ungeheuer" (the monster) joined the HSV from Rotweiss Essen two years ago. He has developed enormously and earned a call-up into the national squad. His chance, after a few B international appearances, could come now, for Klaus Fischer will be out for months, after breaking his leg in the home match v. Bayer Uerdingen.

Unhappy

Kevin Keegan has been unhappy ever since his announced decision to leave Hamburg and join Southampton next season. "My last eight weeks in Germany will be as tough and unpleasant for me, as the first" complained the England captain in his column in the Hamburg paper "Die Welt". He is disappointed in the treatment dished out by the club. "Now that I am leaving, I feel that they don't support me anymore — they're just not interested. I can understand that, but not the coldblooded and unfriendly attitude. That I can't accept.

"Since the first leg tie in the European Cup v. Hajduk Split no one has called on me. My performance against the Yugoslavs was poor — I know that myself. But after the game, when everybody stamped on me, at least one club official could have said that I was ill. For three days I had nothing to eat and I played with a pain-killing injection," claims Keegan, who was suffering from an ear infection. "This to me is not a question of mentality — it is simply inhuman", he added.

Before the Hajduk match team manager Zebec and his assistant Ristic, as well as general manager Netzer, apparently constantly telephoned Keegan at home trying to persuade him to play. When he said that he wouldn't be at his best the reply was: "It is better that you turn out, at least you will be shadowed by their best defender".

Keegan's form has fluctuated so much, that the management even considered relegating their star player to the reserve bench. But almost every time this threat was voiced, Keegan came back with an improved display to confound his critics. One thing is certain — he is not the player he was last year, at least in the Bundesliga and his England performances bear no relation to his club form. He has also become injury prone and my own feeling is that Keegan's constant chase after commercial promotions, coupled with the enormous pressures of top class football, are beginning to take their toll. It would be physically a miracle if he can keep his present life-style going for another season. It may well be that he himself realises this and is hoping for a "rest" in the backwaters at Southampton, who are unlikely to qualify for Europe next season and hardly likely to challenge for major honours next year with a team which includes five key men over 30-years-old.

Hamburg meanwhile have already found replacements for Keegan for next term. The club engaged the international defender Jürgen Groh 23 (ex-Kaiserslautern) and the B international Wernes Dressel 21 (ex-Werder Bremen). Groh cost £225,000 — Dressel £125,000. This means that most of the money (£420,000) received for Keegan from Southampton has already been invested.

But Hamburg's captain and 'libero' Peter Nogly, 33, is leaving for Canada to join the Edmonton Strikers. For Nogly HSV will not ask a fee in recognition of his eleven years service to the club.

Successor

Another well-known player, centre-forward Klaus Toppmöller, 28, who was once thought to be the ideal successor to the great Gerd Müller, has also emigrated to the USA. Toppmöller left for the Dallas Tornadoes, who paid Kaiserslautern £250,000.

Hamburg fans meantime have a new hero, Holger Hieronymus, a 20-year-old midfielder, a local boy who came over from neighbours FC St Pauli and has made headlines with the stunning goal which helped the team to eliminate Hajduk in the European Cup. Hieronymus lifted the ball with his right foot over the Yugoslav defender Primorac and scored with an unstoppable shot with his left foot from 18 yards.

Hamburg had problems finding a reserve goalkeeper, because Jürgen Stars (31) is not renewing his contract. VfB Stuttgart demanded £200,000 for their 20-year-old reserve Uwe Greiner; Eintracht Brunswick wanted £157,000 for Uwe Hain (24). "W are not prepared to pay so much money for players who are not even in the first team" explained general manager Gunter Netzer.

In the Bundesliga championship Hamburg's main rivals are Bayern Munich. They have a problem with their

Hamburg's Ivan Buljan and Cologne's Tony Woodcock.

'libero': Schwarzenbeck has resumed training, but the long lay-off following the operation on an achilles tendon may require a transitional period of gradually getting back into the team. The Norwegian Jan Aas has shown patchy form and Niedermayer was injured. Thus Augenthaler had to take over in crucial games this position, which was once the "property" of the famous Franz Beckenbauer.

Bayern also had trouble with the Inland Revenue who were asking for back taxes over a period of six years. But club president Willi O. Hoffmann explained: "Such additional demands are quite normal, when running a big club like ours. But the sum involved is not unreasonable, nor excesive."

Bayern currently have an average attendance of 35,000 — they need just 32,000 to break even.

The 1.FC Köln (Cologne) apparently have lost their momentum. They figured in a dramatic match against champions Hamburg which they lost narrowly. A full house of 61,000 saw a marvellous match full of great football. Hamburg led 2-0 (goals from central-defenders Buljan and Jakobs), but Cologne fought back in the last quarter-of-an-hour equalising through Schuster and Littbarski, but Hrubesch had the last laugh making it 2-3. Both sides hit the woodwork and had penalty appeals turned down. Keegan won the "English" duel with Woodcock; the Press hailed it as a "super match" between two teams worthy of winning the title. Cologne lost, but had the consolation of takings which produced record receipts of £225,000. Best seats cost £10 because the admission charges were raised specially for this top match.

Attendances generally are down, however, compared with last season by about half a million. Cologne also lost the next vital encounter with Bayern Munich at home by 4-2 and thus the duel for the title was between Hamburg and Bayern. Woodcock has not been in such great form as he showed soon after his arrival. It may be that the tough training methods in Germany are beginning to "bite", or that opponents have become used to his style.

Another startling example of how strict discipline is applied in the Bundesliga: The Austrian international star centre-back Bruno Pezzey has been suspended for seven weeks after being sent off for a foul in the match v. Bayer Leverskusen. Pezzey, who plays for Eintracht Frankfurt, was already once banned this season for eleven weeks, after the famous "trial by television"!

A remarkable statistic revealed that this season no few than 22 penalties were missed in the First Bundesliga only shortly after the second half of the programme had started. Out of a total of 58, only 36 were converted. Neues (Kaiserslautern) was the biggest culprit missing three spot kicks. All four penalties were converted by Volkert (VfB Stuttgart) and Demuth (Bayer Leverkusen).

Borussia Mönchengladbach are worried over an incident in their stadium. Seconds from the end of the match v. Kaislerslautern the visiting goalkeeper Hellstroem fell to the ground; he claimed later he was hit by a screw, but a neutral spectator told police that Hellstroem was KO'd after he jumped for joy at the final whistle — his team won 3-0 — and hit his head against the post!

FRANCE

by Andre Duclos

TIGHT TITLE RACE

MICHEL HIDALGO'S French team just doesn't lose friendly internationals least of all in Paris where the Greeks were thrashed and even the Dutch could do no better than a draw. Less impressive, as we know, were the various Euro cup results, Nantes alone coming through to the semi-finals, while the other two contestants fell by the wayside; Nantes themselves contriving to lose at home to Moscow Dynamo in the return of their Cup winners' Cup quarter-final; something of an anti-climax after their fine win in Russia.

The Championship race has meanwhile been exceedingly tense and tight. Paris Saint Germain, despite some excellent results, had left it far too late — or perhaps left the acquisition of Peyroche as manager far too late. Besides, they came a heavy cropper on the Côte d'Azur to Nice, a team still capable of raising their game surprisingly at times, despite being way down the League table. On that particular afternoon the Yugoslav centre-forward Bjekovic was really feeling his oats. He scored Nice's last two goals in a 3-0 success and there was nothing very much that unhappy Paris Saint Germain could do with him.

As to some of the higher flying teams, there is talk that star foreign players haven't fitted in, that much too much has been expected of them. One such is Carlos Bianchi, the Argentine centre-forward who, despite breaking a leg, came back to score goals galore with Reims, and with Paris Saint Germain. It hasn't this season been the same at all at Strasbourg, even though it was quite clear that their manager Gilbert Gress had bought him with the European Cup in mind. Critics say that it was wrong to bring Bianchi to Strasbourg, who have their own very special way of playing. Wisdom after the event perhaps and it would certainly be unfair to Bianchi to lay all the blame at his door. The whole team has been struggling a little since the turn of the season; and even before.

Disappointed

Saint Etienne, bundled out of the Cup in the most humiliating way by the Germans of Borussia Munchengladbach, have been very disappointed in the form of the Dutch international, Johnny Rep; and it can hardly be said that even Michel Platini, acquired so expensively from Nancy, has set them alight.

At Nantes, there is disappointment in the form of the Argentine international defender Trossero, who hasn't really pulled his true weight. The man whom Saint Etienne really miss, the man who used to galvanise them and sometimes do as much in attack as in defence was that other Argentine international, Osvaldo Piazza, now back in his own country, having missed the 1978 World Cup owing to the motor car accident to his wife and son.

It was embarrasingly plain in the two matches with Munchengladbach that Piazza and his drive just haven't been replaced. It is impossible to imagine the Saint Etienne team under him capitulating in so feeble a mannger.

Nantes, Monaco and Sochaux continue the championship fight with Saint Etienne themselves. Monaco have thrown up a most interesting and promising new attacker in the 21-year-old Alain Couriol, called to the colours for the Dutch match. Still doing his military service with the famous, footballing Battalion de Joinville.

Action from the international between France and Holland which ended in a 0-0 draw.

Coming from the Antilles, he was much sought after when playing last season in Vichy, but it was Monaco whom he eventually chose; a small club but one set by the sea! Monaco have made a left sided attacking midfielder out of him; a role for which his long, spare figure did not, on a superficial reckoning, seem to equip him.

That was illusory, for he has had an excellent season, some consolation for the fact that Monaco lost their prolific Argentine centre-forward, Delio Onnis, for so many weeks. Obliged to take over the role of the tireless, consistent Jean Petit — this has hardly been Monaco's lucky season — Couriol quickly showed himself a most versatile player. His technique is splendid.

Counter attack

He can take part in the linking play or in the swift counter attack. He improvises beautifully at times. He is fast, he jumps well for the high ball, he is surprisingly strong in the tackle, and his stamina is such that he has managed to reconcile the demands of his club with those of the Army and the French Olympic side. Now here he is among Hidalgo's internataionl party. Not a bad season which can give you such new faces as Stopyra of Sochaux . . . and Curiol.

His manager at Monaco, Gerard Banide, feels he has "pure talent" and that he will be more remarkable still when he can go into full training. Already some have begun to compare him with the Black Pearl, Larbi Ban Barek, that marevellous inside-left from Morocco who delighted Parisian crowds in the late 1940s and, dare I say it, inspired a famous French victory in Paris over England in 1946. That's quite a reputation to live up to, but Banide would clearly be the last to discount Couriol's chance to do so.

Sensational

Coming back into impressive form down on the South Coast is that excellent striker Didier Six, even if Olympique Marseille are still taking their lumps in the League. In his case, the talent is so pure and so evident that some critics believe he is not prepared to work hard enough to exploit it fully. Scorer of a sensational goal at the Marcana Stadium in Rio in 1977 which had the stadium agog and which any Brazilian forward would have envied, Six went on to be a star in the 1978 World Cup; even though he may have missed a chance against Argentina (on another occasion of course he should have had a penalty.).

Six was overjoyed when Hidalgo called him up for the Dutch match, despite all the troubles of Marseilles. He is surely the best left footed striker France has, and Hidalgo is a manager who cares above all for talent, understands the problems of those who, like Didier Six, possess it in such abundance. Six, who had problems with the police when he broke Hidalgo's curfew and crashed a car, has been amply forgiven.

SPAIN by Keir Radnedge

The Santiago Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid where the 1980 European Cup Final will be staged.

Referee Fandos in hot water!

REMEMBER Manuel Fandos — the referee who scandalised Barcelona by refusing a penalty in the home game against Real Madrid? He's been in the thick of another controversy, this time at Malaga.

With the hosts on 18 points, three behind the safety zone, Fandos chose the game against fellow strugglers Rayo Vallecano for a disastrous display.

Ignoring two clear penalties and refusing what appeared a good goal by Malaga, he soon engaged the wrath of the crowd. Rayo took advantage by snatching a 2-0 half-time lead and, as the game wore on and the Malaga fans grew steadily more threatening, so poor Fandos found he could do nothing right.

Having added seven minutes to the first half for injuries and incidents, he then proceeded to end the second half three minutes early — influenced perhaps by the number of objects being hurled at him and the way one section of the crowd were trying to break down the mesh fencing.

Rayo had by then run out 3-1 winners, with goals from Marian, Morena and Tanco. But Malaga president Federico Brickman, for whom this game was the last straw after several bad experiences with referees, announced that his entire board had resigned in protest.

"It's up to the federation to run the club from day to day now," said the president. "They — and the referees' committee — are sending us down to the second division, so it's up to them to look after the club there."

Four police were hurt trying to escort the Rayo team bus safely out of the ground through the inevitable mob, and Fandos — ashen-fased — had a police escort until he got on his plane home.

"Why did I disallow the Malaga goal? It looked good to me. But one of my linesmen saw a player offside, interfering with play. As for these so-called penalties . . . home fans always see penalties for their team."

Switch

It might not have been so bad if Malaga, having protested formally, then got on with the job again. But they wouldn't leave the matter alone. Their ground shut, by order of the FEF, for the next home game against Almeria, Malaga were ordered to switch to Algeciras.

They refused. So Almeria turned up but Malaga didn't and were penalised the three points which sent them straight to the bottom of the table and into a hopeless position.

This wasn't the only refereeing crisis. The 1-1 craw between Burgos and Valencia saw the fans going wild over referee De Sosa Martinez's decision to annul two Burgos goals. Burgos needed the points for exactly the same reason as Malaga.

Real Madrid, chasing Real Sociedad at the top, then had three players sent off in two games. First Juanito was given his marching orders at the end of the dramatic top-of-the-table clash in Chamartin when Madrid hit back from 0-2 to 2-2 in the last five minutes. Then Garcia Hernandez and Jose Camacho — a case of mistaken identity in the latter's case — were sent off in the 0-0 draw at Hercules, a game in which Pirri missed a crucial penalty. Hercules also had Charles sent off.

The referee on this occasion was Pes Perez.

In all this fuss it's ironic that Barcelona, the ones who have complained longer and louder than any club about the standard of refereeing, should have been under suspicion in the other direction. When the team travelled to Valencia for the second leg of their Cup-winners' Cup return, they discovered that the referee was Italian Alberto Michelotti.

And immediately the Press launched a campaign wondering what influence Helenio Herrera could pull on an official he knew well from his days in Italy!

In the event Michelotti did well, Barcelona showed a lot of fight, but went out 5-3 on aggregate — a result which will provoke a lot of changes.

Herrera had returned after a 20-year break immediately after the 1-0 home European defeat by Valencia. And it didn't take HH long to decide on which players could best serve the club. He wasn't impressed with either the Dane Allan Simonsen or the Brazilian, Roberto 'Dinamita.'

Roberto has gone home already to Vasco — a proposed re-sale to Flamengo fell through because Barcelona hadn't cleared their original debt with Vasco — and Herrera has told Simonsen to start looking for a new club.

"I don't understand," said Simonsen. "If we played as a team and helped each other more it would make life a lot easier."

Someone else on the way out was Luis Aragones, sacked as coach of Atletico Madrid. It was a home defeat by Bilbao which provoked the one-time schemer's sacking, though he will no doubt be cushioned against unemployment by the club, offering him a job in the shade.

Atletico named controversial Frenchman Marcel Domingo as replacement, but only succeeding in appointing him after fighting trainers' association objections.

Domingo had been sacked by second division Huelva earlier in the season, but kept on the payroll as a scout. The coaches' association thought this infringed rules forbidding coaches to change clubs in midseason.

But amid all the intrigue and chaos there was one welcome achievement — Real Sociedad, by winning 1-0 against Espanol at the start of April, set a record of 28 games unbeaten from the start of the season. Real Madrid were previous record-holders, with 27 games.

There was a silly mix-up over the Spanish Cup quarter finals. The first draw paired Real Madrid with their affiliated second division club, Castille. However federation secretary Agustin Dominguez, for many years secretary at Madrid, said a new draw was necessary.

Dominguez was outside the rule book, for the custom of keeping family teams apart had been established long ago but not written down. But in the end he got his way. Castilla were paired with . . . Real Sociedad.

The Spanish press went overboard in their praise for England's 2-0 win in Barcelona. "A class apart," said one paper. Most seemed more worried for the European battles to come than surprised to discover that Laurie Cunningham is far from an England first choice . . .

ENGLAND FIND RIGHT BALANCE

FOUR years ago, the European Championship Finals provided a rare fiesta of football. With only four teams in the field — Czechoslovakia, West Germany, Holland and Yugoslavia the hosts — the matches were a marvellous advertisement for the game itself.

Scintillating play, goals galore, extra-time finishes, and characteristically, a penalty decider in the Final itself, were enjoyable fare indeed. I find it hard to be equally enthusiastic about the forthcoming tournament in Italy.

The signs don't augur well for the standard of football as the participants struggle in their "warm-up" matches scarcely justifying their presence in the Finals. Perhaps if Yugoslavia could have reached the last eight instead of Spain it would have been better — people keep on saying.

Or Russia instead of Greece, or even France instead of Czechoslovakia or . . . but that's unrealistic speculation, since the Finalists got their just rewards after a longish qualifying competition. There can be no justifiable argument about their rights to be there. But what have they done recently to convince us that they are true challengers of the European crown?

Criticised

Italy, the obvious favourites, beat both Romania and Uruguay at home by a single goal each, and their manager Enzo Bearzot was severely criticised for his misplaced loyalty to the 'Old Guard'. West Germany defeated Austria 1-0, and with Klaus Fischer out of action, they are fervently searching for a plausible replacement.

Holland gave a lacklustre display in their 0-0 draw in France, and La Ling has been suspended by UEFA for the first three matches of the tournament. Czechoslovakia, my "dark horses" for the title, lost 2-0 in Switzerland, a truly terrible result. Greece were also beaten there by the same score, but then nobody expects a great deal from the Greeks.

Belgium also won a couple of games at home, like Italy, but they were unconvincing affairs, with the goals coming from set-pieces, such as free-kicks and a penalty. So, with all the others in apparent disarray, the door is wide open for England to make a telling challenge for the trophy. In my opinion, the present England side is slightly under-rated by some of our "experts".

They are criticised, for instance, for having a suspect defence, yet this defence hasn't conceded a goal at home in the European Championship, and the team won in Spain 2-0. By now, the aberration against Austria last summer can be forgiven, especially when one looks at the overall record of Ron Greenwood's team during his twenty-four matches.

Phil Thompson in action for England against Spain.

After the Spain game, Ron said: "At last they will now admit that we have beaten somebody." Naturally, he meant somebody of consequence, not the nonentities from Ireland and Bulgaria. The real test will come against Argentina and Scotland in May, but I can detect a great deal of improvement in this England side.

The players are full of confidence, they play like a club side, the balance is absolutely right, and only Watson and Keegan seem irreplaceable. Let us look at the 22 players who will represent England in Italy during the European Championship.

Ray Clemence. I regard him as the best goalkeeper in the country, whose positioning, dealing with crosses and agility are first-class. He is very good as an auxiliary defender coming out of his goal, but occasionally commits fouls inside the penalty area.

Peter Shilton. Not having a really good season for Nottingham Forest, but has always been reliable in the England goal. Played especially well against Czechoslovakia at Wembley.

Phil Neal. An above average, solid full-back, who is better at marking people than coming forward and creating openings.

Viv Anderson. When on form, I prefer him to Neal, because of his sharp tackling and attacking ability.

Phil Thompson. A really outstanding footballer who doesn't get the credit for his constantly excellent work. Full of enthusiasm, a 100 per cent trier.

Dave Watson. Has been the rock in the middle of the defence and deals with high centres and low crosses equally confidently. Has a tendency to give away free-kicks.

Mick Mills. Can be beaten by a tricky winger, but his experience is a great

Speaking Personally with Leslie Vernon

Tony Woodcock on his way to scoring for England against Spain.

asset. A good passer of the ball. Very versatile.

Kenny Sansom. Slightly over-rated on this season's form. Has to improve his all-round game before he can be considered first choice left full-back.

Emlyn Hughes. Past his best, but uses his head and can play in several defensive positions. Still worth a place in the squad.

Terry McDermott. Seldom has a really good game for England. On his Liverpool form, he should be an automatic selection, but his forward runs are not as effective in the national team.

Ray Wilkins. A very good anchorman who can slow down the play when necessary. His passing could be more ambitious and he ought to score more often.

Bryan Robson. Difficult to judge him on one game only, and he is not really my type of player. But he is held in high regard by several prominent coaches, and must be a useful cog in the machine.

Ray Kennedy. A left-sided midfielder, who also plays better for Liverpool than he usually does for England. He is a more effective defender than *Trevor Brooking*, whose ball control, passing and understanding with Keegan makes him my first choice.

Glenn Hoddle. An exceptionally talented footballer who is worth a place in any team. But it is difficult to leave out Wilkins or the non-stop *Steve Coppell*, who is able to snatch goals and create chances with astute passes.

Kevin Keegan. His influence on the team is enormous. A fast exciting player, whose world-class finishing is invaluable. His best position might be at midfield of just slightly behind the main strikers.

Trevor Francis. At last he is beginning to fulfil his considerable potential. His goal against Spain was excellent, and his understanding with Woodcock is an important factor.

Tony Woodcock. Has already shown that playing in the Bundesliga hasn't done him any harm. His awareness of situations is very good.

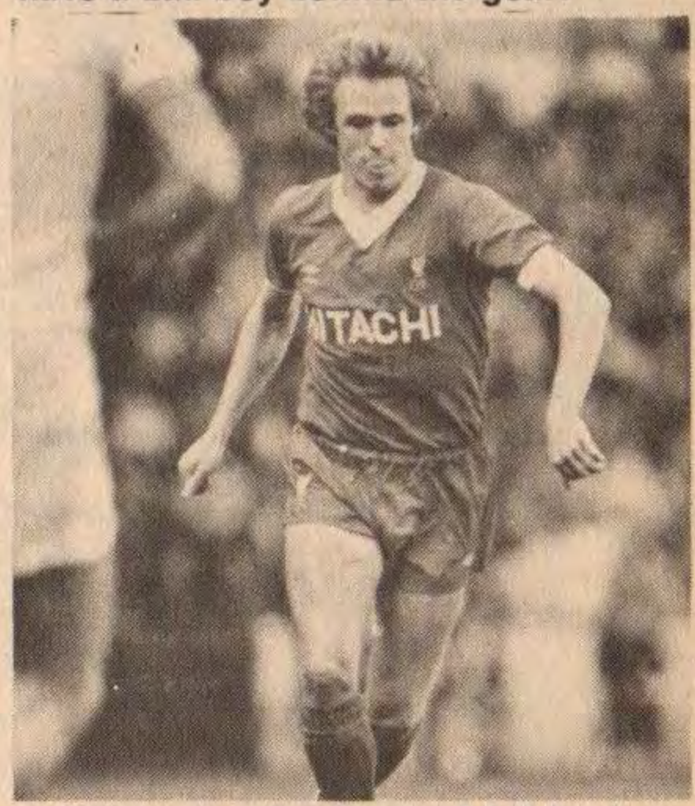
Dave Johnson. A very useful replacement for either Francis or Woodcock. Brimming with confidence following his well above-average season with Liverpool. A potential goalscorer against any opposition.

To use a winger or not has been a moot point, and the two serious candidates, *Peter Barnes* and *Laurie Cunningham*, are both in the same predicament. They play well for their clubs, but in an England shirt they tend to be erratic and "disappear" for long periods. Barnes or one of the midfield men might not make the squad for the sake of a third goalkeeper, who should be *Joe Corrigan*.

These are, of course, personal opinions concerning the players, but they might be a useful guide for our numerous foreign-based readers, who are familiar with names, but have little opportunity to see the players in action. Apart from strength of the squad, which is considerable, credit must also be given to the first-class management of Ron Greenwood and his faithful lieutenants.

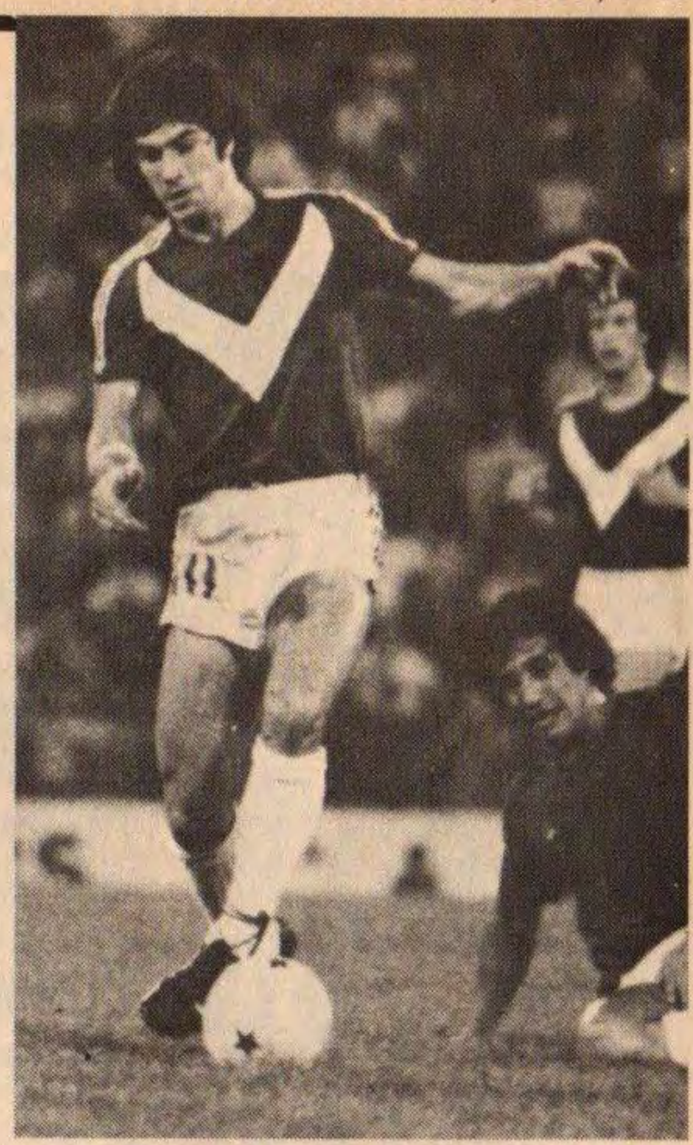
He has cleverly blended the side together, has given ample opportunity to newcomers without loss of efficiency, and has had the necessary luck (see the game at Wembley against Denmark) to pick the right team of the right game. A great deal can happen in football in six weeks, but looking at the present state of the mediocre opposition, I stick my neck out and forecast that England will win the European Championship.

Quote of the month: Jimmy Bloomfield, Orient manager: "Our goalkeeper, Mervyn Day, the photographers, and the ball boy behind the goal all reckon that Allen's shot did not cross the line". Who needs a video tape recorder, or even a referee, when you have a ball boy behind the goal?



Phil Neal — the England full back.

Paraguay's Olimpia sweep the board . . .



Valez Sarsfield's Damiani — leading scorer in Libertadores Cup group 1.

OLIMPIA of Paraguay can truly be called world club champions now.

Although there is no official world championship for clubs yet, the club from Asuncion holds all the inter-club trophies it can possibly win. To the Libertadores Cup, up for play in the South American club championship, they have just added the Europe-South America or Inter-Continental Cup disputed between the Libertadores Cup and European Cup winners and the Inter-American Cup for which the winner of the Libertadores and the winner of the Central and North American and Caribbean Confederation club championship play for.

Olimpia won all three trophies for the first time and on top of that, while winning the Libertadores last year, they also retained their own country's championship — a feat previously accomplished only by Uruguay's Peñarol.

Olimpia had brought back a 1-0 first leg lead from Sweden's Malmoe — the 1978/9 European Cup finalists playing instead of cup winners Nottingham Forest of England — where they played in unaccustomed cold and on snow which their players had never even seen before.

In the second leg, on March 3rd in Asuncion, they won 2-1 against the Swedes who were this time playing in unaccustomed heat. Malmoe used good tactics in trying to stop Olimpia building up play through Talavera and Torres and in frequently trapping the Paraguayans off-side, but when defender Solalinde broke through he could only be stopped by Kent Jonsson giving a penalty away and Solalinde converted it to put Olimpia one up at half-time.

Equalised

After Earlandsson had equalised within seconds of the restart, Olimpia has the better of the exchanges, specially after they brought on Michelagnoli who has come to the forefront as a leading scorer lately. It was Michelagnoli who converted a Solalinde free-kick into the winner 20 minutes from the end to make the final aggregate victory safer.

But Olimpia almost did not turn up for the match at their own stadium. The previous week the Paraguayan champions had played in a friendly tournament in Ecuador, wanted to leave and come back to play the final after the Malmoe match, but differences with the tournament organiser resulted in a court order stopping them from leaving the country. The problem was fixed to enable Olimpia to fly home a day later.

Earlier Olimpia had tied 3-3 with El Salvador's FAS — the Central, North and Caribbean Confederation champions — in the first leg of the Inter-American Cup in San Salvador. But in the second leg in Asuncion, Olimpia's speed and ball play proved too much for FAS as they succumbed 5-0 with Michelagnoli getting three of the goals.

LIBERTADORES CUP STARTS

1980 Libertadores Cup play started with group one matches in which Argentina's River Plate (playing in the tournament for the eighth time) and Velez Sarsfield (first time) were favourites against Peru's Sporting Cristal (nine times) and debutants Atletico Chalaco. (Actually Velez Sarsfield had qualified on a previous occasion — 1969 — when they and River Plate, curiously also the other qualifiers then, did not participate due to disagreement over percentage of gate money going to each team in the tournament.)

Exchanges

Traditionally, the initial meeting of teams from the same country ended in draws — Peru's champions Sporting Cristal drew 0-0 with vice-champions Atletico Chalaco while Argentine champions River Plate drew by the same score with runners'up Velez Sarsfield. Both champions were playing at home and surprisingly did not have the better of exchanges — which gave Velez Sarsfield the edge in the fight for one semi-final place.

Atletico Chalaco, a team approaching the veteran stage, but not lacking in experience, played Sporting Cristal the way no Peruvian team likes to be played — marking them closely. Chalaco were closer to victory most of the way although their reliable defence was stretched to the full to hold the faster Sporting near the end when Uribe's header against the cross-bar almost gave them both points.

In Buenos Aires, meanwhile, Velez Sarsfield seemed the more ordered team at

Alonso (River Plate, left) and Ischia (Velez Sarsfield), key men in their respective teams during the 0-0 Libertadores Cup group 1 draw.

SOUTH AMERICA

by Eric Weil

River Plate's stadium and might have been worthy winners although both sides had their chances. It was again this orderly play that gave Velez a 2-0 victory over Chalaco in Lima with a goal in each half from Castro and Damiano. A Chalaco fan shot himself in despair after watching the match on TV.

Back in Buenos Aires, Sporting Cristal surprised River Plate by uncharacteristically — for a visiting team — going all out in attack and scoring twice in the first 14 minutes. River Plate were disjointed, but once again individual performances pulled them through as Carrasco reduced the arrears a minute later and J. Lopez equalised just after half-time. Soon after Sporting Cristal were left with 10 men when defender Diaz was sent off for an apparently harmless foul. Chilean referee Gaston Castro had already shown too many yellow cards and to avoid it becoming a joke he now had to show his authority.

Confusion

With 16 minutes to go he also sent off Sporting's Argentine-born Peruvian World Cup goalkeeper Quiroga for time wasting and the whole team went with him in protest. Then the confusion started as first the referee suspended the match and was then apparently convinced by officials to carry on after the Peruvian players had also been convinced to go back. When play resumed after a 15-minute break River Plate were completely on top of nine-men Sporting and Luque scored the winner with 13 minutes to go for River Plate's 3-2 victory which was harder then expected because the Argentine champions did not play well.

Referee Castro, meanwhile, was in the process of being suspended by the South American Confederation for showing too many yellow cards — nine to Peruvian players alone — and for changing his mind after suspending the match.

Performance

Velez Sarsfield put up another workman-like performance three days later to beat Sporting Cristal 2-0 with first half goals from Damiani and more easily than River Plate. Sporting only came into the picture in the second half to test Velez goalie Falcioni, but at the same time leaving their defence wide open to Velez's always dangerous counter-attacks. It left Velez at the top of the table with a 4-0 goal average after two away and one home games and the group's top scorer in Damiani with three.

In group 4, the only other group to start play, all four teams were level on two points after playing two games. Here Colombian champions America de Cali and Ecuador champions Emelec started with hard-earned 1-0 home wins over their respective vice-champions, Independiente Santa Fe and Universidad Catolica. Independiente Santa Fe had to field several reserves because some of their players had gone down with food poisoning the previous day.

Then Universidad Catolica beat America 4-2 with the latter's goals coming in the second half from Argentine-born Pascuttini who led the group scorers with three goals. Earlier Universidad had taken a 3-0 half-time lead at home in Quito more easily than expected. More surprising however was the first away victory gained by Independiente Santa Fe over Emelec at Guayaquil by 2-0 although it was only made safe by Vasquez's second goal in the final minute.

(*See Classified results for results, scorers, teams and tables.)

Carrasco (out of picture) beats Sporting Cristal goalie Quiroga to score River Plate's first goal in their 3-2 group 1 home win in the Libertadores Cup.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING— WHAT USE WAS IT?

WHILE nobody complained about anybody else lining up professional players during the recent South American Olympic qualifying tournament in Colombia — they all did it — the two countries to qualify, Argentina and Columbia, are now surprisingly doing an about turn.

Argentina said all along that none of their players had professional contracts registered with the Argentine FA — most of the players were from clubs in provincial leagues who do not have to register at the FA — but now Talleres Cordoba have entered the first division and registered their players. Seven of them formed the basis of the Olympic team, so it has now been decided to disband the squad. Another provincial club's player, Meza, who was the team's leading scorer in the Colombia tournament, was in the news recently when he claimed 25,000 dollars of his cut of a transfer made just before he went to Colombia.

Qualified

While the Argentine Olympic Committee has kept its mouth shut on the matter, the Colombian Olympic Committee says its team is not eligible and the general feeling among soccer officials is that if the squad that qualified does not go to Moscow, no other Colombian team should.

Teofilo Salinas, the Peruvian president of the South American Football Confederation, meanwhile feels that soccer should be banished from the Olympic Games or replaced by a championship for under-23's to stop all these futile arguments on professional/amateur status.

ELSEWHERE . . .

● IN URUGUAY . . . A transfer to end all transfers — Daniel Allende from second division Central Español to first division Rentistas for 550 beef steaks. Rentistas had no cash, but their president has a slaughter house. Conditions of payment are 25 steaks a week (plus 30 per cent of any transfer fee Rentistas may later obtain and they will probably be used to feed Central Español players on match days.

A referee sent himself off in an amateur league match in Flores (Uruguay) . . . Disgusted at the continual dirty play and fighting and unable to control the players any more, referee Raul Arce pulled out the red card, put it in front of his face and went off the field.

Friendly

At Maldonado (Uruguay), meanwhile, the entire Boca Juniors team of Argentina was sent off during a friendly tournament match against Peñarol of Montevideo. Boca's Perroti and Salinas were sent off and the latter started fighting with Argentine spectators on his way off. The entire Boca team ran off the field to join in the fray, referee Cerullo told them to come back onto the field and as they didn't he sent them all off.

Argentina, the current World Cup holders, have already booked their hotel for the Gold Cup tournament for previous World Cup winners to be played in Montevideo at the beginning of next year.

● IN BRAZIL, Corinthians of Sao Paulo, the country's most popular club, announce that they will build the world's biggest stadium to hold 200,000 spectators. They expect to have it ready by 1985 . . . Newly appointed national team coach Tele Santana announces he will go to Italy in June for the finals of the European Nations Cup.

BEARZOT'S RESPITE

by Derick Allsop

THE bribes scandal may be daubing a few more filthy marks across Italian football's reputation but it is giving Enzo Bearzot a little respite he isn't likely to refuse.

With the European Championships rapidly approaching and the nation expecting — no, demanding — nothing less than victory this isn't calculated to be a comfortable time for the manager.

Distractions are even more useful when your build-up is hardly inspiring confidence and some of your rivals are looking rather more impressive.

It was never going to be an easy period for Bearzot, of course. There's the usual call for changes, to bring in youth instead of the old guard.

Bearzot has stood firm, continued with the tried and trusted and is unlikely to make drastic alterations between now and the middle of June.

This was his line-up for the recent meeting with Uruguay in Milan: Zoff (Bordon), Gentile, Cabrini, Oriali, Collovati, Scirea, Causio, Tardelli, Rossi, Antognoni, Graziani.

Uruguay scarcely lit up Europe on their tour yet Italy managed only a 1-0 win and the 33,000 crowd at San Siro made it know that they were far from satisfied.

Relentless rain, a heavy pitch and the damp atmosphere didn't help Italy, and in fairness to them they were always in control of the match.

The defence was sound, distributed well and Scirea, in particular, suggested he is ready for the more demanding confrontations to come.

In midfield they were too good for the modest Uruguayans, but Tardelli often wasted the final ball and it was left to Antognoni to make the telling contribution.

Bearzot applauded Ray Wilkins' part in England's victory against Spain yet the current Antognoni, eager and cunning, seems more than a match.

It is in attack where Italy flopped and may be giving Bearzot a few headaches. They often troubled Uruguay but never gave the impression they would take them apart.

The biggest disappointment was Rossi. He showed the usual willingness to chase wide, to take on defenders. But the destructive turn and the decisive finishing were missing.

He was frequently caught in possession and when a clear opening arrived he turned his header wide.

Causio produced more, throwing Uruguayan defenders with typical flicks and dummies. He also tossed up one or two dangerous centres. But he was in and out of the game and never dominant.

The best attacking display came from Graziani. Bettega had a bout of 'flu and Graziani played with the determination of a man trying to make a point.

His strong running was a valuable asset in the conditions and he took full advantage. He also, quite fittingly, scored the only goal of the game.

It came after just nine minutes. Antognoni crossed, Tardelli touched it on and Graziani, not too obviously on-side, headed in from close range.

That should have been the start of a romp but Italy, for all their possession and distinct superiority, were unable to add to their account.

Bearzot, however, insisted he wasn't so disappointed with his team's performance. "I was satisfied with the general play and I felt Antognoni was outstanding.

"Graziani also did very well. He may have given me a problem. He has certainly given me something to think about. He can do just as well in Bettega's shirt."

Managers the world over will tell you that's the sort of problem they love to have. Right now it could be the least of the Italian boss's problems.

With England and Belgium making confident strides towards the Championships Bearzot is looking for the form they showed early the World Cup finals — and the nerve to go all the way.

MANCHESTER United, whose chairman Louis Edwards died earlier this year, have put their future in the hands of a partnership.

Edwards' son Martin is the new chairman while Sir Matt Busby is the club's first president.

Busby's appointment is clearly in response to the widespread calls for United to give the man who made them one of the world's great clubs the ultimate accolade.

But United also believe the combination of Edwards' youth and enthusiasm, and Busby's experience and stature, gives them the ideal hierarchy.

Edwards, at 34, the second youngest chairman in the Football League, says: "I am sure I will be able to work closely with Sir Matt for the good of the club.

"Sir Matt is a great ambassador for the club and his vast experience is invaluable. I know I can turn to him any time I need to.

"Our aim is to make United No. 1 again. This club should be the top in Europe and we will work hard to try to bring that about. The club and supporters deserve nothing less.

"Looking to the future I believe a club of this size warrants a full-time chairman and I will be looking in that direction. I intend to spend a lot of time at Old Trafford.

"There is a lot of work involved in being chairman of Manchester United but then I knew that. I was able to learn from my father so I was fairly well prepared."

Busby, who led United to their European Cup triumph in 1968, told his fellow directors he would not stand for the chair and seconded the proposal that Edwards be appointed.

He said: "It's a great honour to become president and I will continue to try to do as much as I can for Manchester United.

"We have a young chairman and I am sure I will be able to help him when he requires it. I am confident it will be a happy relationship and that he will do a great job."

THERE is somebody in America called Lou Gautier. Could he by any chance be that same Lucien Gautier who once ran a soccer magazine in Australia, a man who suddenly and surprisingly metamorphosed in to Lou, presumably to make himself more acceptable to Anglo-Saxons? Perhaps. His slightly hysterical patriotism suggests as much; suggests the fervour of the immigrant.

He has taken up the cudgels on behalf of American soccer, deploring an article of mine in the *Sunday Times*, in which I quoted an English soccer coach in the States who derided American coaches. They couldn't, he said scornfully, trap a bag of cement.

Now Lou has upbraided me for transgressing a basic journalistic tenet. I know nothing about college soccer in the States, he says. He will swear that I have never been beyond the Press Box in the Giants Stadium. My information is second hand.

There is another journalistic tenet, Lou, Lucien, or whatever your name is; and that is that you should check your facts. You didn't. Had you done so, you would know that last year I spent a week at Oneonta, New York State, watching several different college teams and many hours of training sessions. Indeed, it was one of those college soccer players whom I met who sent me your silly article.

You are fully entitled to your own opinion; as I am. You may be right, you may be wrong; but you have not done your homework. By the way, if you are ever in touch with the Australian Lou/Lucien Gautier, could you gently remind him that I'm still waiting to be paid for an article I wrote for him nearly six years ago. But perhaps that's a journalistic tenet which Lou/Lucien finds less exigent.

* * *

MY friend Giorgio Chinaglia of the Cosmos, once of Lazio, once even of Swansea City, publishes his memoirs, CHINAGLIA! in the States next August, and I have been able to read an advance copy.

Chinaglia's story is one of the most unusual and interesting of any footballer there has been; rags to riches indeed, graduating, if that be the word, from stealing milk bottles for his breakfast in Swansea to great wealth in football and property across the Atlantic.

On the book itself, I take the Fifth Amendment, but there are good anecdotes, and some revealing passages.

One concerns the vicissitudes of Eddie Firmani, as manager, or coach as they call it, to the New York Cosmos. After glossing over the true facts and the explosive controversy of the sacking of his predecessors, Gordon Bradley and the President Clive Toye, Chinaglia reads Firmani a sanctimonious lecture for not taking more account of the Cosmos' "front office," i.e. the board of directors.

He should, says Chinaglia, have paid due attention to such Warner Communications (they own the club) executives

The BRIAN GLANVILLE column

CHECK YOUR FACTS LOU!

as Jay Emmett and Rafael de la Sierra. At which the immediate temptation is to throw up.

I believe it was one of these gentlemen who, last season, after a torrid game in Giants Stadium against Vancouver, shrieked in the dressing room, "I want the Commissioner in my office at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning." Chinaglia might, as an ex-Lazio star, well have recalled the famous Roman put down; *"Aoh, ma chi sei?"* Which may roughly be translated as, "who the hell are you?"

I myself remember how the Cosmos/Warner executives — though not the Turkish brothers Ertegun, who at least know and love the game — jumped around and screamed after Cosmos had two men suspended for their appalling behaviour in Vancouver.

Firmani is not my ideal manager, but if getting on with people like Emmett and de la Sierra is essential to keeping your job with the Cosmos, I wonder how long a man as intransigent as Hennes Weisweiler will last, after he has taken over the Cosmos in mid-season? The truth is, despite modest disclaimers in the book, that Chinaglia himself, thanks to his friendship with the Warner chief Steve Ross, is one of the most powerful figures in the Cosmos, and it is his whims rather than those of the executives he mentions which really carry weight.

Chinaglia very properly deplores the habit of allowing American reporters to come pouring into the dressing-rooms immediately after a game. As he rightly says, it increases the tension on players not allowed to relax. On the other hand, there is surely a happy medium between that kind of licence and the absurd, anachronistic way in which the Press are barred from dressing-rooms in England.

Once upon a time you could easily make your way down to the dressing-rooms at Wembley. Not now. There's a complete embargo.

As Chinaglia points out, the reason for the American invasion is that the reporters know so little about the game that they are obliged to funk writing true reports, and rely on quotes from managers and players. As a leading American correspondent in London explained to me the other day, soccer reporting is an easy option for editors who want to shrug off the egalitarian obligation that they hire x number of women journalists.

"I only went on to *sarcker* three months ago," one of them explained to me, last summer. There are of course exceptions who prove the rule, women soccer writers there who, whatever their limitations in knowledge, do a more competent and conscientious job than the men; though Lord knows that isn't very difficult. Chinaglia's point is, on the whole, well taken; though it chimes oddly with his fulsome encomia for certain soccer reporters and television commentators who are scarcely of the first rank; or even the third.

* * *

While on the subject of America, may I point out that the book I wrote which WORLD SOCCER recently reviewed, A BOOK OF SOCCER, was published in the United States alone by the Oxford University Press of New York. It is not available in England.

* * *

I am not much beguiled by the prospect of turning our footballers into sandwich boards, as the Germans and the French have done, but aesthetic reasons aside, it seems to me sheer hypocrisy and double think by the television organisations to throw up their hands in horror. What, after all, is the World Cup but a televised jamboree for advertisers? Why do ambitious firms such as West McNally bid huge sums for the advertising rights of such tournaments, if not because they know that their advertisements around the grounds will be shown to millions of viewers throughout the world.

If you insist that footballers divest themselves of advertising slogans when they appear on the box, the logical corollary is that when matches are televised you take down all advertising.

Advertising, and the money poured in by commercial interests, seems chiefly to be behind that wretched little irrelevance next season in Uruguay, when they'll be, unless wiser counsels prevail, a tournament between ex-winners of the World Cup. Uruguay have of course won it twice, but their present team, recently seen but not admired in Europe, will bore everyone to death if they are not just kicking them to death.

The best Uruguayan footballers get out of the country as quick as they can; like most of the aspiring young people in that now God forsaken country with its brutal regime. Ted Croker was a thousand times right not to commit England to the superfluous idiocy of a competition which has no basis in reality; unless that reality lie in the commercial interests of those behind it, and the prestige of the much criticised and repugant Uruguayan Government.

* * *

WHILE we are on the subject of shirts, is it not time that the Football League cried, "Hold, enough!" to all those damnable second strips? Why, several people asked me, did Derby County appear recently on the box playing Ipswich in what were virtually Wolves colours? "They're our away colours," I understand them to have explained to an inquirer. In which case, WHY are they their reserve colours?

White shirts and black shorts, their usual strip, certainly do not clash with Ipswich Town's blue shirts and white shorts. Are the clubs simply interested in making money out of their various chromatic changes? Let me say at once that Derby are not, alas, remotely the only offenders. Fans are often sentimental creatures, and when they are not laying into one another with fists, boots and occasionally flick knives they like to see visiting teams wearing their own colours; whenever feasible. Passed to you, Mr Kelly; you could strike a blow for logic . . . and tradition.

Chinaglia of Cosmos.

World Soccer Diary compiled by Jonathan Shallard

Where are they now

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? . . . ***Mario Lobo Zagalo.*** *Born 1931. Began as an inside-forward with America FC of Rio, later playing for Flamengo before settling with Botafogo. Here he switched to outside-left and earned a place in the Brazilian World Cup-winning teams of 1958 and 1962. He was the original defensive left-winger who turned 4-2-4 in to 4-3-3. After retiring he became Botafogo coach and his success led to his nomination shortly before the 1970 World Cup to take over the national team. Became the only man to have won the World Cup as player and manager but wasn't so fortunate in 1974 when he was attacked for his defensive strategy in West Germany. Spent nearly three years in exile in Kuwait but has now returned to Brazil as coach of Fluminense.*

GOLDEN BOOT AWARD. – ***Leaders:*** *26 goals – Staroukhin (Shakhtor Donetz), Van den Bergh (Lierse). 25 – Schachner (FK Austria). 23 – Ceulemans (Brugge). 21 – Nene (Benfica). 20 – Nielsen (Esbjerg), Eriksen (Odense), Petursson (Feyenoord), Kist (Alkmaar), Jordao (Sporting Lisbon). 19 – Skovboe (Naestved), Kempes (Valencia), Bajevic (AEK Athens), Langers (US Luxembourg). 18 – Thygesen (BK 1903), D. Müller (Köln), Larsen (Lokeren), Boyer (Southampton), Morena (Rayo Vallecano), Morris (Limerick), Somner (St Mirren).*

WATCH OUT FOR . . . May 1: Yugoslavia v Luxembourg (World Cup) . . . May 7: UEFA Cup Final, 1st leg – Sweden v Denmark (Gothenburg) . . . May 9: Polish Cup Final (Lech Poznan v Legia) . . . May 13: England v Argentina (Wembley) . . . May 14: Cup-winners' Cup Final (Brussels) . . . May 16: Republic of Ireland v Argentina (Dublin) . . . May 17: Wales v England and N. Ireland v Scotland (British Championship) – Switzerland v Hungary (Zurich – prov.)

LONG TERM FOR GERMAN

THE West Germans are — in the words of every other English footballer at one time or another — "over the moon".

The reason is obvious: the dominance of the UEFA Cup, which means that whichever of the semi-finalists emerge victorious, the winners are bound once again to come from the *Bundesliga*.

At no time in the history of the Fairs/UEFA Cups, the Germans have been reminding us, did even the English manage to sweep everyone else aside in such fashion.

But there is more to it than mere seasonal glory. Nowadays a country's success at club level has a long-term reaction and the German successes have put their clubs way out in front in the points race which decides how many UEFA Cup entries a country receives.

England next season, for example, will be down to three UEFA Cup places. But it's virtually certain that the European progress this year of Arsenal and Nottingham Forest will bring a return to four clubs in season 1981-82.

In the meantime the Germans battle out the current competition.

The European championship in June has meant something of a squash of fixtures as the season comes towards a climax. And with so little time between the European semi-finals and the finals — with the exception of the Champions' Cup Final on May 28 — there's no time for anyone to catch their breath.

Certainly the way the dates fall prevent *World Soccer* bringing you our usual final previews for both the Cup-winners' Cup and the UEFA Cup.

But even though the semi-finals have yet to be completed, there's no denying that the UEFA Cup will probably throw up the better of the two competition winners. The attacking strength of the *Bundesliga* has been starkly portrayed in the progress to the last four of Bayern Munich, Stuttgart, Eintracht Frankfurt and holders Borussia Moenchengladbach.

And while Stuttgart may have squeaked through a couple of rounds it's always rewarding to see the clubs who have established a tradition returning. Bayern Munich, league leaders as I write after a fine 4-2 away victory over challengers Köln, appear to be reviving fast under controversial field general Paul Breitner; Eintracht Frankfurt earned their halo in 1960 in the Champions' Cup; and Borussia, despite some reverses in the league, have been rebuilding on youth at a prodigious rate.

Past Fairs/UEFA Cup winners: 1958 Barcelona. 1960 Barcelona. 1961 Roma. 1962 Valencia. 1963 Valencia. 1964 Zaragoza. 1965 Ferencvaros. 1966 Barcelona. 1967 Dynamo Zagreb. 1968 Leeds. 1969 Newcastle. 1970 Arsenal. 1971 Leeds. 1972 Tottenham. 1973 Liverpool. 1974 Feyenoord. 1975 Borussia Mg. 1976 Liverpool. 1977 Juventus. 1978 PSV Eindhoven. 1979 Borussia Mg.

Servette skipper Gilbert Guy

England had at one time threatened a dominance of the Cup-winners' Cup which mirrored the different attitude towards knock-out competitions in Britain and the rest of Europe.

While many continental countries are continually altering the format of their domestic cup — Italy are a prime example of organisational instability — the FA Cup has been going on for more than 100 years and appears well set for another century.

After Tottenham made the European breakthrough for Britain by defeating Atletico Madrid in the 1963 final, West Ham in 1965, Manchester City in 1970, Chelsea in 1971 and Rangers in 1972 virtually took over.

And that's to ignore the fact that Liverpool, Leeds and West Ham have all finished as runners-up.

Arsenal were left to carry the flag this time, given the awkward draw of Juventus in the semi-finals while Alfredo Di Stefano's Valencia certainly fancied their chances of going all the way after being paired with Nantes.

How names go round and round! Here's Di Stefano back among the European glory-hunters 20 years after his triumphs as a

World Soccer Diary compiled by Jonathan Shallard

M BENEFITS SUCCESSES

t with goalkeeper Karl Engel.

player with Real Madrid; and when Valencia faced Nantes he found an old adversary from the 1959 Champions' Cup Final in Jean Vincent, *then* the Reims left-winger set to drop back and stifle Di Stefano, *now* the Nantes boss trying to outwit him.

One thing at least was certain. Whoever wins the Cup-winners' Cup will put a new name on the trophy. None of these four teams had ever reached the final before.

* * *

FASCINATING cameo of Cesar Menotti, Argentina's in-demand World Cup manager, was provided recently by John Smith, chief executive of Second Division Luton.

Not Menotti the manager. But Menotti the player. For Smith remembers him from their days together at the now defunct New York Generals, when Smith was learning all about football promotion and Menotti was winding down his career.

"He was always very pleasant," recalled Smith. "Didn't speak a word of English. Smoked a lot. (What's new?) As a footballer he was intelligent but slow. And that's being generous. Immobile might be a better word. I think he wore out the centre circle.

"But he did come out every now and again with a tremendous shot. I suppose he developed it to save the effort of getting too near goal himself."

CHANGING the laws of any game is always fraught with trouble. And that's the prospect if FIFA have their way and persuade the International Board to alter the regulations over goalkeepers at penalty kicks.

At present, says FIFA, goalkeepers have little or no chance of saving and should be allowed to move along the goal-line — *but not forward from it* — before a kick is taken.

The Board meet in Northern Ireland on June 7 and hopefully FIFA — with four of the necessary six out of eight votes presumably on their side — may yet have second thoughts. England will vote against and the recent feat of Paul Cooper surely strengthens the anti case. He brought his season's record to eight saves from 10 penalties when he stopped two in Ipswich's 1-1 draw with Derby.

More seriously, FIFA's proposal can only have a even more detrimental effect on the game's morals. If players think their goalkeeper now has a reasonable chance of saving a penalty there is bound to be an ugly increase in the number of deliberate offences in the box — trips, hand-ball, etc.

So please, gentlemen — let's preserve the status quo. Referees have trouble enough with penalties already!

* * *

WHEN ice hockey crowds started topping those for football last year the unmistakable impression was that the Swiss had fallen victim to a fatal lack of passion for the game.

The image has now been dispelled, though in the sort of unpleasant manner which must again give FIFA and UEFA cause to wonder how long it will be before a referee is killed by hot-tempered mob stupidity.

The occasion was Zurich's 3-0 home defeat by St Gallen. The 'provocation' was a controversial early penalty against Zurich and the later expulsion of one of their players, by referee Peter Rotschi.

At the end of the 90 minutes several hundred fans charged across the pitch, beat up a linesman and very nearly caught up with the referee before he found the sanctuary of the dressing rooms.

That wasn't the end of his trials. After having a police escort on to the motorway out of town, the three officials found a car driven by enraged fans trying to ram them off the road. Later threatening slogans were daubed over the home of one of Rotschi's neighbours.

The situation stirred up such a hornet's nest that Zurich, fearing ground closure and a hefty fine, took the extraordinary decision to sack manager Tschik Cajkovski. It's hard to see how he was to blame for the riot and this had been, after all, only Zurich's first home defeat of the season.

Names in the news

NAMES IN THE NEWS . . . Brazilian coach DELEM has been sacked by San Lorenzo . . . HUGO GATTI may be leaving Boca Juniors for New York Cosmos . . . Cosmos also moved in for Belgium's FRANCOIS VAN DER ELST . . . Anderlecht recall veteran Dutch goalkeeper NICO DE BREE . . . SERGIO CLERICI, long-time mercenary in Italy, is new boss of Brazil's Palmeiras . . . GEORGE BEST is lined up to join Southampton . . . Leeds and Scotland goalkeeper COLIN HARVEY signs for Vancouver Whitecaps . . . Czech goalkeeper ZDENEK HRUSKA may miss the European finals after injury on tour Down-Under . . . GILBERT GRESS agrees to stay another year as boss of Strasbourg . . . Toulouse manager PIERRE CAHUZAC turns down trouble-torn Marseille . . . ERNIE BRANDTS of PSV Eindhoven says he's received a fabulous offer from Arsenal . . . Marseille line-up PSV goalkeeper JAN VAN BEVEREN . . . WLADYSLAW ZMUDA asks Slask Wroclaw for a transfer . . . ANDERS LINDEROTH quits Marseille to start the new Swedish season with promoted Mjaellby . . . JURGEN SUNDERMANN decides to quit Grasshoppers Zurich to return to West Germany, probably to Stuttgart . . . TSCHIK CAJKOVSKI is sacked by FC Zurich and replaced by veteran coach ALBERT SING . . . KLAUS TOPPMÖLLER quits Kaserslautern for Dallas Tornado . . . Ghanaian star JOHN YAWSON signs for Penarol . . . MARKO VALOK returns from the NASL to coach Vojvodina Novisad.

WE TOLD YOU . . . ***5 years ago,*** *that Wlodek Lubanski had made a goal-scoring comeback for Gornik after a 20-month injury absence . . . that Oswaldo Brandao had been made new Brazil boss . . . that the corner stones had been laid for the 1978 World Cup stadia in Cordoba and Mendoza.*

by ERIC BATTY

CZECHO STILL A

IN 1978 Czechoslovakia did very well at Wembley which has so often been a graveyard for their hopes. When looking good in their qualification table in the European Championship, I felt that Dr. Jozef Venglos was going to rekindle the fire in the bellies of his players and persuade them to battle when things go wrong.

After the 1978 World Cup flop, in which the Scots gave them a bruising at Hampden Park and Wales humiliated them 3-0, they badly needed a lift to their morale.

They received it in the autumn of 1978 when, France who were the seeded team in their group, could only draw 2-2 at home to Sweden.

The Czechs followed that with a 3-1 win over Sweden in Stockholm where right-winger Marian Masny had a fine game and scored twice.

Final stages

Tails were high and went even higher after they had beaten France 2-0 in Bratislava. Czechoslovakia felt that they really could qualify for the final stages in Italy.

Dr. Venglos had done a good job, but he still had problems with the side away from home as they showed when losing 0-3 away to Russia and 1-2 away to Hungary in friendly games.

Even in a European match last November they looked pretty grim when losing 1-2 against France in Paris, but they had the consolation of knowing that despite that reverse, thanks to their points advantage, they still had one foot in Italy and all they had to do to clinch their place was to beat little Luxembourg at home, whom they had already beaten 3-0 away. In the event they won 4-0 to edge France out by a point.

The Czechs' problems are seen at their brightest against hard-working opponents who play a physical, tough tackling game, though they seem better able to cope with such teams at home.

This has much to do with Czech domestic football for their game is played at a comparatively leisurely pace, and most significant referees jump in firmly at the slightest hint of physical contact, and any boot raised to knee height is consistently penalised for dangerous play.

Dr. Venglos adopted an unusual approach when scouting around the clubs looking for 'possibles' whom he could give a run to in the national team. Because Czech football is dominated by the home teams, he only looked at the visiting players when he went to Czech league games, looking for players who had the character to play well away from home.

At their own leisurely pace, some of the Czechs are remarkably skilful. Marian Masny is a gifted winger who can play on either flank, but strangely he seems to score more goals in international football than he does in league games. Clearly he is one who rises to the big occasion.

Dukla Praha's new right-winger Ladislav Vizek is another talented player, only 24 but quick and skilful, and scorer of quite a few goals. He is also able to fill in for Dukla and get goals from centre-forward.

But the two men of the current crop who really can stand out in a battle are Dukla centre-forward Zdenek Nehoda, now 27 with 60 caps and captain Anton Ondrus who is 30 with 49 caps.

Both these players would be quite at home playing in the English First Division and Ondrus in particular would be an asset to any club. Nehoda has courage, is quick and is good in the air though not a big man. Ondrus, who plays the *libero* game is well over six foot, a giant of a man who is almost unbeatable in the air, and very skilful on the ground for one of his size.

These two could score goals in any company.

Vaclav Jezek, the manager who led them to success in the 1976 Championship, with Dr. Venglos as his assistant, told me a story about Ondrus that gives an insight into his character.

Fighter

When he was only 22 he played in his first international in Dresden against East Germany. In the dressing room before the game, Ondrus picked up a ball, and took it round to every player, insisting that they place both hands on the ball and swear an oath to give 100 per cent effort in the game. Ondrus is a fighter, with a heart to match a big man.

At the other extreme is the supremely gifted Antonin Panenka. Watching him pull out all his dribbling and feinting tricks, scoring with bent and curling shots, and plying his colleagues with superb, well thought out passes, for Bohemians is a delight. He looks like Gunter Netzer reincarnated.

But in international matches, Panenka only shows up well if the Czechs are able to dominate the game and slow it down to his pace. In a hurly-burly game Panenka disappears.

This was never shown up better than at Wrexham where Wales beat Czechoslovakia 3-0 in a 1978 World Cup qualifying game. Panenka had a stinker, and I made a remark to that effect to Vaclav Jezek.

The next time I saw him, Mr. Jezek told me: "You remember what you said about Panenka at Wrexham? Well, I have analysed a film of the game and Panenka only touched the ball eight times!"

Yet in his own world, Panenka is a brilliant match-winner.

Revolves

Another controversial player is Dukla inside-left Miroslav Gajdusek who has a good left foot, but whom I have never seen play well. "You should have seen him last week," my friends tell me. And he must have something for at 28 he has gathered 41 caps, yet never shown anything to me.

One of the Czechs big problems revolves around their goalkeepers who are far from happy on the cross, particularly against forwards who challenge them for the ball in the air.

The best of the current crop is Zdenek Hruska of Bohemians who played at Wembley in 1978, and is now 25 with nine caps.

But Hruska was injured and hospitalised during the Czechs tour to Australia in February and had not recovered in time to play against Switzerland in March. The Czechs played very poorly in that game but perhaps had their confidence undermined when stand-in goalkeeper Dusan Keketi (Spartak Trnava) who is 28 with seven caps, lost his head and went out to give away a penalty that gave the Swiss their first goal. Away from home, that was a recipe for disaster, and they slumped to a 2-0 defeat.

But in their most recent game, away to Spain, they looked much better and with Nehoda scoring both goals, managed a 2-2 draw at Gijon.

On paper the Czechs should have a strong side for no less than five of the current team are veterans of the 1976 European Championship. One who is missing is goalkeeper Ivo Viktor who played magnificently throughout that competition and did much to build confidence in the side.

These five are Ondrus, Nehoda, Gogh, Panenka and Masny.

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SLOVAKIA N ENIGMA

Ondrus will not be found wanting, and will give nothing away in defence. On top of that he will not only be dangerous when he goes up for set-pieces near the enemy goal, he can also be expected to play his way upfield now and again in the style established by Franz Beckenbauer.

Koloman Gogh at left-back is a sturdy reliable player, now 31 with 48 caps. He looked raw when I first saw him years ago, but has got to the top through dedication and sheer hard work, which are attributes that so many Czech players do not have.

Gogh will hold his own in defence and also move upfield in support when the Czechs counter attack.

Marian Masny at outside-right, 29 with 51 caps could give most full-backs trouble if he gets support from behind and a regular service of good passes for he is still nippy and quite tricky.

Nehoda is a battler though he was handicapped in the autumn by a muscular injury that kept him out of several internationals, including the game the Czechs lost in Paris.

Midfield

Apart from the goalkeeper problem, that will be solved, hopefully when Hruska is fit again, the section of the team that is clearly causing concern to Dr. Venglos is in midfield.

With Hruska playing behind an experienced back four completed by Jozef Barmos (Inter-Bratislava, 25 years/22 caps), Ladislav Jurkemik (Inter-Bratislava, 26/26) and of course Ondrus and Gogh, they should not give much away. At the other end, playing 1-3-4-2, Masny and Nehoda can be relied on for a goal or two . . . if they get support from midfield.

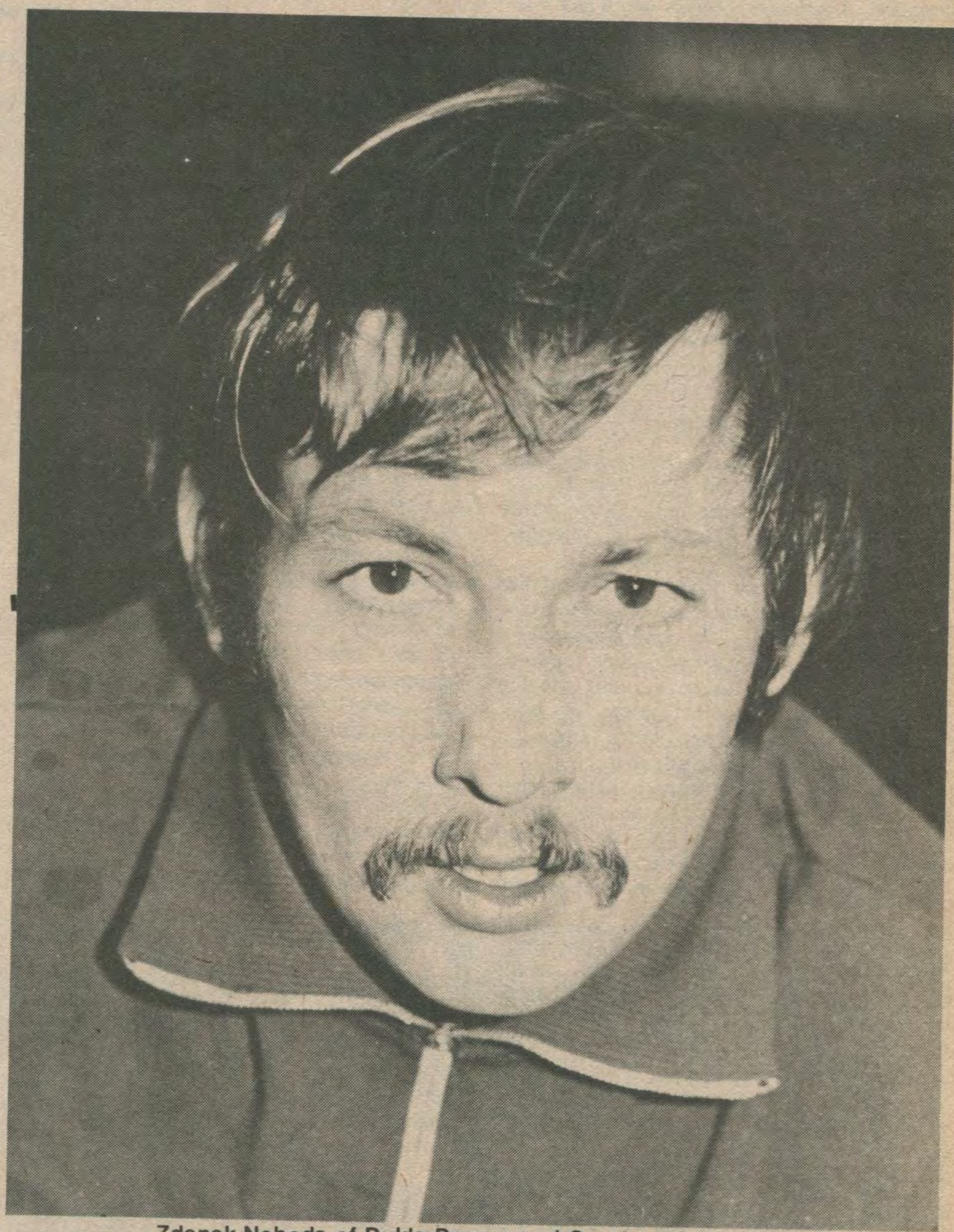
But Venglos is so concerned about this sector of his team and against Switzerland he brought back two real veterans both 33 who played in Yugoslavia in 1976, Karol Dobias (33/66) and Jaroslav Pollack (33/50).

Both these players have changed clubs since 1976, Dobias, always a fine player right from his youth with Spartak Trnava, has now joined Bohemians and Pollack nicknamed "Bobby Charlton" in his hey-day, is with Sparta Prague.

The fourth midfield player was Jan Kozak of Lokomotive Kosice. He is 26 and has 29 caps and has been around long enough to know what is required. Kozak got the Czech consolation goal when they were beaten in Paris, but he is not often a scorer.

I cannot believe that Dr. Venglos will go to Italy with such a quartet of old heads — with Panenka 32 — the average age was 31½.

But also he must know that to play Gajdusek and Karel Kroupa (Brno, 29/21) in a 1-3-3-3 system that also included Frantisek Stambachr (Dukla, 26/11) in midfield will mean a whitewash, just as it was in Paris.



Zdenek Nehoda of Dukla Prague and Czechoslovakia.

Having only two strikers who look good at top level — Masny and Nehoda — Dr. Venglos must play four in midfield, reinforcing the front men in breakaways, but just who the midfield four should be is anybody's guess, though for his sake I hope Dr. Venglos has some answers.

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SOUTH AMERICA

by Eric Weil

PRO SOCCER REACHES 50th YEAR

THE Argentine first division started its 50th season of professional soccer this year and curiously 13 of the 18 clubs which started the momentous 1931 season are in the division today. The so-called six "big ones" — River Plate, Boca Juniors, Independiente, Racing Club, San Lorenzo and Huracan — have never been out of it. The others are Velez Sarsfield (now the seventh "big one"), FC Oeste, Estudiantes de La Plata, Quilmes, Platense, Argentinos Juniors and Tigre who returned as first division promotion winners this year.

The "big six" have shared 45 of the 49 titles between them — River Plate 15, Boca Juniors 11, Independiente 7, Racing 6, San Lorenzo 5, Huracan 1 — while Estudiantes de La Plata, Chacarite Juniors, Newells Old Boys and Quilmes won the other titles once each.

Defending champions, River Plate, with their wealth of talent, top the table undefeated after seven matches and an uncertain start. Their World Cup goalkeeper, Fillol, had the dubious honour of conceding the first goal of the season after three minutes as they were held to a 1-1 draw by Colon on the opening day. Their next match also ended 1-1 at Estudiantes de La Plata, but then followed a string of five victories including a 5-2 defeat of traditional rivals Boca Juniors on the latter's field — the highest win ever for River Plate there in this classic of Argentine soccer.

Boca Juniors, meanwhile, languish at the bottom of the table after four defeats in a row — including three by 5-2 — only stopped by a 1-1 draw against another struggling big club, San Lorenzo, who were a point off the bottom. It was a vital match for both manager-coaches who seemed to be on the point of being thrown overboard.

Boca's Rattin, their former international centre-half, took over a squad disgruntled over contract terms as the club is in financial trouble. The team needed strengthening, but the money was not available and they are still unsettled as they are just coming out of an injury crisis which left a whole team side-lined. It is said that this is a legacy of former manager-coach Juan Carlos Lorenzo, whose brand of "hard soccer" left players injury-prone and burnt out.

San Lorenzo's Delem has the problem of a split club board which bought and sold the wrong players, but do not want to accept their mistakes so that now they blame the coach and not the playing strength for poor results. On top of that the players are unsettled because most of them have still not been able to reach agreement on contract terms.

Trailing River Plate by two points, with a match in hand, are modest Argentinos Juniors who bought big before the season started to build a team around their extraordinary young midfielder Diego Maradona. They are also unbeaten and seem to have been successful. Maradona is the championship's leading scorer and his team's play-maker, but the team showed how well they can do without him recently when they beat Rosario Central 4-1 while he was injured.

Maradona was injured in a friendly in Chile and it was at first feared that he had broken a leg. Argentinos Juniors, trying to cash in on his fame, are the club playing most friendlies during the championship at the moment — recently losing 2-1 to the New York Cosmos in Buenos Aires in their third match in six days — and the effort may spoil their championship challenge in the long-run.

Talleres Cordoba, the season's newcomers (apartfrom promotion winners Tigre) after a lengthy tug of war with the Cordoba league, are not finding it so easy as they did in the national championship in recent years. Most clubs take the first division championship more seriously and Talleres, with some of their international stars — notably World Cup man Valencia — not having shown their best form so far this season, have not quite got into the rythym of playing a tough match every week so that under new ex-Independiente coach Pastoriza they are not yet quite the same team as last year. Yet they were unbeaten in their first six matches until River Plate were rather flattered by getting past them 3-0 at home, but the Cordoba team continues in touch with the leaders.

The earlier than usual start to the season — to allow suspension when the national team tours Europe in May and finish the season well before Uruguay's Gold Cup tournament starts — has meant that most matches have been played under abnormally hot conditions. The approaching cooler weather

Pena (San Lorenzo) (2) and Randazzo (Boca Juniors) fight for the ball in an Argentine first division match. Neither player is showing earlier promise, but they are struggling in lowly-placed big clubs under a lot of pressure.

IN Guatemala soccer fanaticism caused three deaths and numerous injured when Comunicaciones of Guatemala City and Coban Imperial clashed in the triangular final round of the Guatemala championship at the latter's stadium some 300km north of the capital. The score was 1-1 with only a few minutes to go when the referee suspended the match because spectators were throwing all kinds of objects on to the field. But the suspension infuriated home fans even more and they broke the barriers to invade the field to attack the referee, linesmen and Comunicaciones players. The fighting continued outside the stadium between rival fans this is where the deaths and injuries occurred.

The match, watched by the country's president, General Romeo Garcia, a former soccer official born in Coban, was vital for both teams as the winner would have been automatic champion. In the event Comunicaciones beat the third final round participant, Municipal, three days later in the last match and final standings (with each team having played four games) were Comunicaciones six points, Coban Imperial five, Municipal one.

IN Mexico the extraordinary thing of the 1979/80 first division championship is that

Spindola (in the air) scores a spectacular goal in Argentinos Juniors 3-2 victory over Independiente on the opening day of the Argentine first division championship.

J. J. Lopez (River Plate) gets past Talleres Cordoba midfielder Berta (5) in the Argentine first division. River won 3-0 at home.

may also change the course of the championship.

ELSEWHERE . . .

COLOMBIA'S Opening Championship has started with Deportivo Cali topping the table after three matches, but champions America de Cali and Medellin trail only a couple of points behind with a match in hand.

Deportivo Cali signed up one of the country's best players in midfielder Willington Ortiz who joined them in a surprise transfer from the Bogotá Millionarios. The popular Bogotá club — leading title winner with 11 championships — also let go last season's league top scorer, Argentine-born Irigoyen, and have now gone "Brazilian" under yet another new coach, Brazil's Jose de Souza Texeira who signed up a couple of his countrymen — Mario Quiroz Mota and former international Valdomiro Das Franco.

Six of the 14 first division clubs have Argentine manager-coaches and it could have been seven — Alberto Rendo resigned as manager of Bucaramanga only three weeks before the season started because the club sold two players he considered essential. Five other clubs are also managed by foreigners — two Uruguayans, two Brazilians and one Chilean.

IN BOLIVIA, Oriente Petrolero of Santa Cruz and The Strongest of La Paz reached the final of the twice interrupted 1979 championship — first due to internal soccer problems and then political upheavals — after playing a final round with three teams in two sections of which the top two qualified for semi-finals.

Oriente Petrolero and The Strongest are Bolivia's two representatives in this year's Libertadores Cup, but in the Bolivian championship final they each won their home leg 2-0 so that by the middle of March the 1979 title had still not been decided after the two finalists had played five matches each in ten days.

IN VENEZUELA, one club, Miranda, dropped out of the professional league leaving 11 teams to start the Copa Venezuela — the preliminary championship played in two sections with the section winners then playing for the title.

Newly-crowned champions Tachira — only in their third season in pro soccer — started modestly with three draws and a 1-0 victory over bottom Estudiantes de Merida which gives them little hope for their first participation in the Libertadores Cup in which they have to face the Brazilian champions and vice-champions in the first round group.

In the largely foreign-orientated Venezuelan soccer foreign players have this season been limited to ten per club of which only five can play at the same time.

URUGUAY will allow the entry of foreign players this season — three per club — as a means of popularising the game as falling gates have plunged clubs into financial crisis.

Young players are being rushed into the first division too quickly and there are no good coaches to teach them while pay is also low. The result — poor soccer which has failed to attract the fans, also because admission prices have risen faster than the cost of living. Due to the lack of cash there has been no rush to buy leading foreign players as the opening championship got under way with 14 teams playing in four sections.

Alberto Spencer of Ecuador, former star of Peñarol's great team of the '60s, has returned to Montevideo to coach modest Huracan Buceo.

Death in Guatemala

the same teams virtually continue to hold on to the top two places in each group which eventually qualify for the semi-final round. During the month under review only Neza has taken over second place from Toluca in group 3, while others – Atlante and Cruz Azul in group 1, Universidad Autonoma and Tampico in group 2, America in group 3, Universidad de Nuevo Leon and Zacatepec in group 4 – have held on to leading places since the beginning of the season. There are 12 games to go before the semi-final round.

America – called the "Millionarios" because they have the money to buy up all the leading stars, stretched their unbeaten run to ten games and have the best record of the 20 first division teams. They also have the biggest lead – nine points in group 3.

● *Meanwhile Pedro Rocha, the former outstanding Uruguayan international midfielder or forward who also spent many successful years playing in Sao Paulo (Brazil), returned to Montevideo from Mexico with some serious accusations against officials of the Neza club to which he had been transferred at the beginning of the season. The Mexican club, he said, wanted to get rid of him and pressed him to sign his resignation (without receiving full payment of his contract terms) for six months during which time they retained his passport and would not give it to him unless he agreed to terminate his contract. Finally the matter was resolved by the intervention of the Mexican league so that he was able to leave the country. But Rocha said he was never given a chance to show his skill. He was rarely put in the team and then in the unaccustomed position of winger.*

PLAYERS IN THE NEWS – Leading transfers

★*Ral Gorriti, Peruvian international, tried out by Leeds United (England) but not signed in January, to Instituto Cordoba (Argentina) on free transfer. (Gorriti had previously been expelled from the Peruvian national team for disciplinary infringements.)*

★*Fernando Reyes, Chilean goalkeeper, from Ferroviarios (Chile Second Division) to Fort Lauderdale Strikers (US).*

★*JULIO MELENDEZ, veteran Peruvian international defender, from Leon de Huanuco (Peru) to Toronto Municipal Sportsclub (Canada) on free transfer.*

★*"ROBERTO" OLIVEIRA, Brazilian forward from Barcelona (Spain) to Flamengo (Brazil) for $710,000 (only three months after being bought for $800,000 from Brazil's Vasco da Gama).*

★*ADAN MACHADO, Uruguayan half, from Nacional (Uruguay) to Cruceiro Belho Horizonte (Brazil) on free transfer.*

Managing Directors— a thing of the future

by **Ken Goldman**

FOOTBALL in England has been going through the motions of soul searching as to what it should do at Management and Board levels.

So many capable players who subsequently became successful managers have been unable to fulfil themselves or give their knowledge to clubs other than on an employee level.

To this extent men such as Sir Matt Busby, Joe Mercer, Jimmy Hill and Sir Alf Ramsey could not take their rightful places on the Boards of Directors of their various clubs and only by retiring from active management could they be promoted to a higher level.

It was with great interest and pleasure therefore that I learned that at the forthcoming Annual General Meetings of the Football Association and Football League it is to be proposed that the appropriate rules and regulations be amended to include a provision to allow full-time paid Directors of Football Clubs.

Programme

At the moment this cannot take place and why the men mentioned above had to retire to reach a place on the Board. It was of even more interest to read in the Orient programme in March that that homely club had already taken the unprecedented step of appointing Manager Jimmy Bloomfield to be Managing Director of the club. The club are therefore hoping that the Football League meeting in June will pass the resolution to allow them to ratify Jimmy's appointment.

Such a move could only really have emanated at a club as friendly and relaxed as Orient where Jimmy's wife and a chartered accountant, being a relative of a director, help out with ticket distribution on match days; where the chairman is always accessible to the press and the public and where one of the players, full-back Bill Roffey, has joined a local coaching association.

I trotted down to Brisbane Road to get Jimmy Bloomfield's views on the move, which he pointed out to me could not be officially recognised until passed by the Football League, even though it had been minuted in the club's company documents, at a board meeting.

Finances

Did the move hold any trepidation for him I wondered, but he dispelled any worries on that score when he said: "I already meet regularly with the directors as do most managers, and I am already responsible for buying and selling players, interested in all aspects of the club's finances, its image and policy making, and the board have delegated to me the right to sign cheques.

"As I am still also involved with the coaching I have my fingers on the pulse of the club and have striven for this all through my management career. The position of manager at a football club is a senior position anyway and it is important especially at a club of Orient's size which is a closely knit unit to have a business-like approach.

"The secretary, manager and chairman are the three most important back-room men at a club and it is necessary for them to have a close harmony. When I first started as a manager at Orient I had to learn everything and generally progressed, while at Leicester they believed in the manager managing everything so it has all been a natural progression.

"By the time I returned to Orient I was already doing most of what I do today, so that I feel the title and position will not cause me any undue pressure. I was extremely pleased and proud to be offered the position and believe it is a forward step for managers in general.

Impossible

"My one reservation is that if it all goes through, people being offered the position of manager must not think that it automatically follows that they will become a managing director. It is a job to work at and it takes experience. I am 46 and have been a manager for 12 years, two of which were as player-manager. It is also a job for football people and should not be seen as a position for a new breed of person who is appointed managing director and tries to run the footballing side.

"I think it is almost impossible to be a League manager without ever having played professional football, as the greatest priority at a football club is the playing side. I feel our chairman has shown a pioneer spirit in bringing the matter up so early and obviously I hope the League meeting passes the resolution."

Clearly it is an important step and one which Bertie Mee when at Arsenal wanted to see. His friend and colleague for so many years, Bob Wall, was also precluded from attaining Director status even though made general manager and had to retire from active duty, so to speak, before being appointed to the Board.

Requirements

Clearly the change must come because so many want it and because again football is out of step with the law of the land. Apart from certain requirements such as acquiring qualification shares according to the Company's Articles of Association and being of full age (18), whilst not being a bankrupt or disqualified by law, anyone can become a director of a limited company. A managing director who is of course a director, is one to whom the Board delegates its powers of day-to-day management of its affairs, keeping back the most important powers in connection with its own structure.

Thus it would be possible to mount yet a further large legal test case if the League throw out the suggestion of paid directorships. If it goes through it should give a stimulus and impetus to the Football Association's management courses which they have striven manfully to promote and which are so deserving of success. I can't wait until June to see what happens.

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HUNGARY

by Leslie Vernon

FULL HOUSE IN BUDAPEST

BRILLIANT sunshine, a full-house of 60,000 people, eleven goals, two excellent matches — that was the appetising menu when the first "double-header" of the spring season was played in the Nepstadium.

It featured the four strongest teams of Budapest, and gave some encouragement to those experts who say that Hungarian League football is on the upgrade once again.

Leaders Honved met Vasas in the first encounter, and it was a truly important fixture, because on the one hand, Honved are determined not to fritter away their advantage as they did last season, and on the other, in many people's eyes, Vasas are the most likely candidates to depose them.

The match opened with a beautiful goal engineered by Bela Varadi. He took the ball up from the half-way line and then instead of the expected low centre, he lobbed the ball over to the other side for the oncoming Birinyi to volley home from 15 yards.

Four minutes later, Honved equalised through their "man of the match", Nagy. Six minutes later, Bondonyi's shot was slightly deflected, goalkeeper Meszaros was slow to anticipate the change of direction, and the ball found its way into the net — 2-1 to Honved.

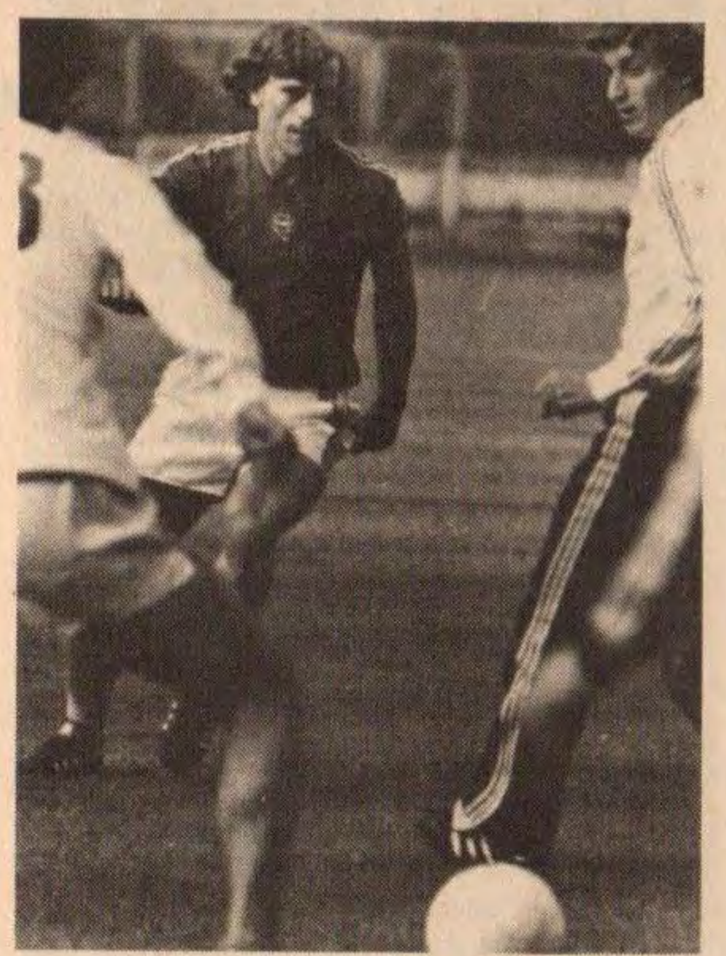
But Vasas came back strongly — a Varadi centre was headed home by Izso, then the same player fought his way back into the penalty box, and beat goalkeeper Gujdar from the edge of the area.

It was perhaps a miskick, but as they say, they all count, and Vasas turned round with a 3-2 lead. Pal created the equaliser shortly after resumption, when his pass from the right was converted by Nagy — 3-3!

Challengers

Vasas had the territorial advantage during the rest of the match but couldn't score, and the draw was a just result. This point took Honved's total to 31 — four ahead of a bunch of challengers.

Although they unexpectedly drew their previous match with lowly Dunaujvaros 2-2, they won their first three games of the new season. Vasas are one of the teams on 27 points, and they also have an excellent opportunity to win the Cup, in which all the other leading contenders failed to progress due to a combination of lack of ambition and the peculiar rules which operate in Hungary.



Sandor Zombori of Hungary.

All Cup matches are played on the grounds of the teams from the lower divisions, and if the match ends in a draw, the home team go into the next round! There is no extra time, no penalties — it is a ridiculously unfair handicap race, which is deservedly unpopular with crowds, players and officials alike.

Even the bait of European qualification cannot inspire interest while the current system is enforced by the FA But back to that smashing "double-header" and to the main "meal" which paired old rivals Ferencvaros and Ujpest Doza.

To me, the most gratifying aspect of this game was that it featured both Tibor Nyilasi and Andras Torocsik. The "Fradi" player Nyilasi has changed his mind about retirement, he was welcomed back with open arms, and played in the centre of a midfield line between Takacs and Ebeli. Torocsik is back in action after his long lay-off following his serious car accident, and he is beginning to show the old touches which made him such a delight to watch.

In the previous week, Fradi lost at home to Videoton 5-2, a humiliating defeat, which demonstrated that the present green-and-white squad is not good enough to win the League race.

Against Dozsa, they struggled manfully, but greater class won the day quite easily. Kardos opened the scoring in the 10th minute, and Schumann, a young midfielder, made it 2-0 before the break. In the 79th minute, Fazekas, the Belgium-bound veteran, shot from 20 yards, the ball came back from the post, and Torocsik swept it in.

Five minutes later, Fazekas himself scored after a pleasing move, and Szokolai's goal was scant consolation for the vast number of Fradi faithfuls in the crowd — 4-1! Dozsa, after a wretched start to the season, are back in the reckoning with — yes, you've guessed it — 27 points, and Fradi are on the same total.

The fifth team, Videoton, are also four points behind Honved. They showed real class in the above-mentioned triumph against Ferenvcaros in Budapest, but a week later, astonishingly lost the local derby at home to Mav Elore 3-0! This win helped Elore in the relegation dog-fight which involves nine teams.

PVSK are doomed, and Diosgyor are unlikely to go down, but the others cannot feel safe. While Dr. Karoly Lakat concentrates on the Olympic team, the senior national side beat Poland in Budapest 2-1 (Fazekas, Torocsik — Lato) — a reasonable result against an experimental Polish side.

To sum it up, I can report a slight improvement in the fortunes of the Hungarians, but these are early days yet, and the rest of the season will give us a better indication of the "Magyars" potential in the forthcoming tussles for a place in the 1982 World Cup!

● Continued from page 15

be before that soft plastic became hard plastic? Before the players began to resemble American grid-iron players? And before the game degenerated into a brawl where fighting was more important than ball-skill?

Unfortunately it is all too easy to envisage an audience for a violent sport of this sort. Ice hockey has shown the way — a beautiful, flowing sport that has been fouled with the stain of repeated fights. And what have the ice hockey authorities done to cut out the roughness? They have talked much and done next to nothing. There is a firmly held belief, not too often aired, that fights attracts spectators. They do — and one can go to any New York Ranger ice hockey game to see just what sort of fan fights do attract. Noisy, loutish, and not infrequently, drunk.

So there are spectators around who would want to attend a guerrilla-warfare type of indoor soccer. Would there also be players who would want to play it? I suppose there would be. Obviously all the traditional skills and the usual methods of training players would have little relevance. Size would be paramount, and the ability to throw a left hook a distinct advantage. Which again would not matter too much, were it not for the claim of the MISL that "Americanisation" is their aim, that their version of indoor soccer is to be based heavily on young American players, that this is the arena where those players will be able to prove their worth.

If young American players are to excel at the outdoor game, then they will have to play the outdoor game. At the moment, when they leave college at 22, they are generally immature in a soccer sense. To subject them to the intensity of indoor soccer, where the responses and the instincts are so different . . . I cannot see how that will help their indoor game. It may very well deal it a death blow. And there you have the nucleus for the new generation of indoor-only players.

An indoor league based on highly-skilled players could be quite an attractive proposition. But whether top players would be ready to submit themselves to the hectic, injury-prone, grind that the current American version demands . . . that remains to be seen. And it remains to be seen exactly what FIFA and Joao Havelange have in mind as their version of indoor soccer. One way or another, I have no doubt that we are going to get indoor soccer. I hope for the best.

KNAPP WARNS . . . NORWAY NO PUSHOVER

LATER this year Tony Knapp is going to find himself in demand.

Not necessarily by English clubs looking for a new manager — despite his successes in Iceland and Scandinavia the one-time Leicester and Southampton centre-half continues to be strangely overlooked by the English themselves — but by the English newspapers.

The reason is that Norway have been drawn in England's World Cup qualifying group and Knapp, as coach to last season's league and cup double winners Viking Stavanger, is the obvious source for anyone wanting information on the strengths and weaknesses of the Norwegian game.

Amateurs they may be, but England will do well not to underestimate them, though it has gone largely unnoticed in Britain that Norway qualified for the Moscow Olympics finals at the expense of West Germany whose federation boasts 30 times (!) the number of players registered with the Norges Fotballforbund.

That result didn't go without comment in West Germany. Bayern Munich were quick enough to whisk away to the *Bundesliga* the oustanding Moss sweeper, Jan Einer Aas, for a Norwegian record £190,000.

And again it's perhaps surprising that Norway should be virtually uncharted territory to English football fans when you consider the number of British coaches working there in recent years, with considerable success.

Not only Knapp, but Joe Hooley — who twice steered Lillestrøm to the league title — Brian Green, George Armstrong, Dennis Burnett, Brian King and Les Shannon among them.

The message is this then: Take notice of Viking Stavanger in next season's Champions' Cup — they qualified of course by winning last *year's* spring to autumn championship. Don't expect them to suddenly start knocking out the Real Madrids, Nottingham Forests and Hamburgs of this world. But if Knapp is right in his estimate of the progress being made, then there could be some interesting signs and a warning or two that England can't afford to take the Norwegians too lightly.

"The World Cup draw makes it very interesting," says Knapp. "Remember Finland a couple of years ago? They were in England's group, came to Wembley and played extremely well, losing only 2-1. It could be the same with Norway. England may have a surprise.

"Another example, we get better average crowds than the Swedes. And if one club here in Norway made the decision to really push themselves, they could easily do another Malmö, slip through to one of the European finals perhaps.

"People abroad don't realise it, but there are a lot of go-ahead people in Norwegian football now. At Viking we have a beautiful clubhouse, a new stand and a synthetic turf pitch for training. And Viking happen to be one of the three or four clubs in Norway who could imitate Malmö. I'm not saying that just because I'm the coach. That's being realistic.

"Remember, in 1977 Joe Hooley's Lillestrøm beat Ajax 2-0 in the first round of the Champions' Cup. All right, so they lost 4-0 in Holland. But they gave Ajax a shock. There is a lot of potential. It just depends how ambitious the Norwegians themselves become."

After his success in Iceland — Knapp guided the national team to famous victories over East Germany and Northern Ireland — it remains a mystery why he is still on the Scandinavian circuit. The man himself seems resigned now to working forever outside the Football League.

Several years ago he commented that: "Once you're on the managerial roundabout in the Football League you're in for life. The real problem is getting on in the first place."

Knapp isn't the type to ask for favours. He'll let his record speak for itself and allow other people to be the judges without being

The

VIKING, founded back in 1899, three years before the football association, entered the first division only in 1949. And it's been in the post-war era that they've achieved their real fame, winning the league six times and the Cup on three occasions.

That total of six championships puts them in second place overall behind Fredrikstad, who claim nine successes, the first way back in 1932 before Viking came on the national scene.

Even so, the Stavanger club first reached the Cup Final in 1933 – losing 3-1 to Mjøndalen in Oslo – and 1947 – going down 2-0 against Skeid in Bergen – before appearing in the first division.

Two of the 1933 team rank among Norway's most outstanding players. The one was inside-right Reidar Kvammen, the club's record goal-scorer with a total of 202 in 284 games. Pehaps an even greater claim to fame though was his place in the Norwegian team who staggered Hitler by eliminating Germany in the quarter-finals of the 1936 Berlin Olympics. The Norwegians won 2-0 and then wet down only 2-1 after extra time to eventual winners Italy in the semi-finals.

The magntude of their achievement was not so much in finishing third, thanks to the fact that italy took the title since there was no third-place match, but that their amateurs had so upset the professionals of Germany and Italy.

The German side – not very popular, you can imagine, with the watching Adolf Hitler – were captained by Rudolf Gramlich, later president of Eintracht Frankfurt in the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the referee in the jam-packed Berlin Olympic stadium was – a fact generally forgotten – a Dr A. W. Barton, an Englishman.

Relative

Reidar Kvammen was just one member of a family of footballers, three of whom played for Norway. But it was no relative who was Viking's other star in the 1930s, but William Danielsen, another goal-scoring forward, who totalled 177 in 370 gamesfor Viking over a ten-year period which brought him a mere six internat onals – far fewer than he probably deserved.

In the 1950s Viking remained an unfashionable club despite landing the first division title in 1958. The side was built around international centre-half Edgar Falch (28 caps and 257 games for Viking), while the end of the decade saw the arrival of the club's record international, inside-right Olav Nilsen. He would win 62 caps, scoring 115 goals in 414 league and cup games.

Indeed his loyalty to Viking meant that he went down with the club in to the second division in 1965, helped win promotion two years later, and was still around for Viking's Champions' Cup debut in the autumn of 1973, when they lost only 1-2, 0-1 to Czechoslovakia's Spartak Trnava.

With the Norwegian season running from spring to autumn, they had of course qualified for the Champions' Cup by winning the 1972 league title, the first of a brilliant run of four crowns in succession. Yet such has been the turnover that only three players survived – 31-year-old midfielder Svein Kvia, with more than 500 appearances to his name, as well as 39 internationals, goalkeeper Erik Johannessen and midfielder Inge Valen.

But while today's first team squad includes nine internationals there are quite a few more around! The club set-up in Norway being very different to the professional western European scene, means that men such as Nilsen, and other past stars such as Reidar Goa, Sigbjørn Slinning and Anbjørn Ekeland are busily

Club Focus by Keir Radnedge

pushed or bullied.

"I had a good run in Iceland and now I'm doing a fair job at Viking and getting fair results," he says in understatement. "I've done a lot of things, worked in a lot of places, many of our so-called better players wouldn't do when they get to the end of their careers. The way I look at it I'm in the final stages of my apprenticeship out here.

"But the way the club is run I'm allowed to be my own boss and under the terms of my contract I'm in a position where I don't want for anything. In fact, I've just started taking lessons to get to grips with the language.

"I've had no problems because the players speak English. But I want to get as close to them as I can, and also the people of the town. That's only really possible if I'm as thorough as I can be. So that means getting straight on the language."

Certainly to hear Knapp speak you start to wonder if it isn't time the Football League introduced a far more stringent management training course for coaches and executives, including a spell working overseas, perhaps in some of the developing soccer countries. Working abroad has certainly given Knapp a new outlook on the game.

As Knapp said, he lacks for nothing in working conditions.

history

involved in the club hierarchy.

After the fourth consecutive league title Viking slipped back to fifth for two years and then, in Tony Knapp's first season, promised a sudden revival by leading for much of the season. In the run-in however they lost their way and it was Start Kristiansand who were crowned champions, with Viking third.

Treble

Coach and players determined that, if they could help it, there would be no such slips the next season – 1979. And their determination worked to such good effect that Viking scored a unique treble – winning league, Cup and youth cup.

The early rounds of the cup saw them struggle against lower division opposition and then later in the season there were other complications when Kvia and Refvik were injured.

Nevertheless, clear leaders in the league, they beat Brann Bergen 1-0 in the semi-finals and second division Haugar 2-1 in the final to complete the double.

In the league Viking lost only three of their 22 games, scoring 31 goals and conceding 16.

THE PLAYERS

ERIK JOHANNESSEN. Goalkeeper, Aged 28. Teacher. Has played 348 league and cup games for Viking. Six full caps, eight under-23 and 11 junior. One of only three survivors of the team who won the first of four consecutive league titles in the early 1970s. Was voted the club's Player of the Year last season.

AGE THOMASSEN. Goalkeeper. Aged 17. Promoted from the juniors this year but picked up a liver infection during Viking's February tour of Nigeria and could be out for some time.

BJARNE BERNTSEN. Sweeper. Aged 24. Student. Has played 109 senior games, 13 full internationals as well as two at under-21 level. Joined from a fourth division club only two years ago and can also play at right-back and in midfield. A member of the Olympic team.

ROLF BJØRNSEN. Centre or right-back. Aged 31. Has 183 senior games to his credit, though he was a mainly a reserve last season.

ARILD REE. Defender. Aged 19. Student. His first appearance in the senior squad last season was ill-fated for he was injured for most of the time and has just missed all the pre-season games because of slipped disc.

TOR REIDAR BREKKE. Centre-back. Aged 24. Totals 109 games for Viking, having rejoined the club last year from Valerengen.

TONNING HAMMER. Attacking left-back. Aged 24. Ten under-21 caps and 12 at junior level. Poised to top 100 first team appearances. Lots of natural ability, he came close to a first full cap last year. Signed from another local club, Vidar.

PER HENDRIKSEN. Centre-back. Aged 26. Knapp describes him as a player "on whom I'd stake my life." Gives total reliability and 150 per cent effort.

ATLE VERVIK. Defender. Aged 17. Youth international. New recruit from the juniors.

GUNNE FJETLAND. Centre-back. Aged 21. Another signing from Vidar, joining this year after a delay caused by his national service commitments.

INGE VALEN. Midfield, but can also play full-back. Aged 29. One of the three 1972 survivors. Has scored 162 goals in 321 games for Viking yet won only two full caps, 10 at under-23 and nine junior. Has been threatening to retire for the past couple of years because of domestic commitments, but has been persuaded to keep going.

CATO ANDERSEN. Midfield. Aged 18. Student. Played five junior internationals for Norway last season while still on the fringe of the first team at Viking. Tremendous potential with his excellent technique, accurate passing and good vision of play.

SVEIN FJAELBERG. Midfield, but can also play full-back and is perhaps at his best as sweeper. Aged 21. Student. Made his international debut for Norway last season, winning three caps in his first season in the Viking first team. The club's record signing — from a local third division club — at a princely £3,000!

SVEIN KVIA. Midfield. Club captain. Aged 31. Should shortly overtake Sigbjørn Slinning's record 522 appearances for Viking, having 510 games to his credit before this year. Nicknamed "Mr Viking" in the town. Knapp talked him out of retirement at the start of last season and he finished by leading Viking to the double!

KNUT INGE SVELA. Midfield. Aged 18. Junior international and a player to watch for the future.

ISAK ARNE REFVIK. Forward. Aged 24. Viking were glad to welcome him back to the attack last year after a projected transfer to Hibernian was called off because his lack of full international status prevented the Scots obtaining a work permit. A member of the Olympic team with his perpetual-motion style.

TRYGE JOHANNESSEN. Forward. Aged 27. Possesses the best goal record of Viking's present squad. His 129 in 220 games puts him fifth in the club's overall records, though last season he found the going tougher, with opponents keeping a much closer watch on him.

STIG FEYLING. Forward. Aged 19. Was originally a defender, but has been converted by Knapp in steps, first into midfield and now plays with success up front.

TROND EKHOLT. Forward. Aged 25. A policeman, a job which caused complications when he was transferred to Oslo. Still wished to play for Viking, but could only travel up on match days. Hopes to move back to Stavanger shortly.

TORBJØRN SVENDSEN. Forward. Aged 26. Moved from midfield to the front line by Knapp and immediately showed the sort of potential which could take him into one of the professional leagues. Totals 215 games for Viking.

AGE RISANGER. Midfield or attack. Aged 20. Youth international and under-21. Newcomer to Viking, fulfilling an ambition to play for the club.

AGE FROSEF. Forward. Aged 17. Newcomer from the juniors.

VIKING STAVANGER

Chairman: Arne Johannessen
Coach: Tony Knapp
Founded: 1899
Stadium capacity: 21,000
Champions: 1958, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1979. Division II: 1967. Cup: 1953, 1959, 1979. Runners-up: 1933, 1947. (Note: Until 1937 the Cup-winners were regarded as champions).

VIKING IN EUROPE

1972-3 — UEFA Cup
1-0 0-0 v IBV (Iceland)
1-0 1-9 v 1st FC Köln

1973-4 — Champions' Cup
1-2 0-1 v Spartak Trnava

1974-5 — Champions' Cup
0-2 2-4 v Ararat Erevan

1975-76 — Champions' Cup
2-3 0-1 v RWD Molenbeek

1976-7 — Champions' Cup
2-1 0-2 v Banik Ostrava

1979-80 — UEFA Cup
0-3 1-1 v Borussia Mg

Pd 14 Won 3 Drawn 2 Lost 9 Goals for 11 Agst 29

The green, green grass of Washington

WHEN Johan Cruyff left the Los Angeles Aztecs there were three other North American Soccer League clubs who showed a definite interest in acquiring his services – Washington, Toronto and Vancouver. What made him choose the Washington Diplomats? Apparently it was the fact that the Diplomats play on beautiful green grass.

Toronto and Vancouver both play on the "Mod Sod" as artificial turf is sometimes known. Washington, however, play on the real thing and it is no secret that Cruyff hates playing on artificial turf.

In fact Cruyff recently told the Toronto Globe and Mail: *"Artificial turf is the worst thing that ever happened to soccer." I am sure from talking to numerous players in recent years that those are sentiments that will be echoed by just about every player who has ever played on the plastic.*

However, stadiums in the United States and Canada continue to instal artificial turf in some cases ripping up the old and installing new after it has become worn. This means that should the United States or Canada ever seriously apply to stage the World Cup there will be very few grass stadiums left on which to play the games. Unless of course FIFA changes its rule banning the use of artificial turf from the final rounds of world competitions.

CRUYFF'S FIRST GAME DEFEAT

THE North American Soccer League opened its 1980 season on Saturday, March 29 with the league champions Vancouver Whitecaps losing 2-1 at home to the unfancied California Surf, while the Washington Diplomats, complete with Johan Cruyff, were beaten 3-2 in Tampa on a shoot out.

Elsewhere the expensive Fort Lauderdale Strikers were beaten 2-1 in Memphis also on a shoot out, while the Tulsa Roughnecks beat the Houston Hurricane 1-0 in the Astrodome where the Hurricane were unbeaten last season. Seattle beat Atlanta 1-0 in Seattle and Dallas defeated Atlanta 2-0 in Dallas.

It was the usual puzzling mixture of results that the NASL seems to throw up week after week, notably in the case of Vancouver and Fort Lauderdale who have considerably superior personnel than the teams that beat them.

Changes

Unlike so many years in the past NASL line-ups for 1980 are very similar to those the clubs fielded in 1979. What changes there are are on the whole minimal which is in contrast to the past when there were often wholesale changes from one season to the next. Here briefly are how the teams look going into the leagues fourteenth season.

Atlanta Chiefs: A very similar line-up to 1979 with largely British and American players under American coach Dan Wood. They played well towards the end of last season, but will probably finish last in their division once again.

California Surf: Once again a line-up very similar to last year's and no doubt the club will once again struggle to make the play-offs. Interesting new signing is defender Stephen Feeney from Bangor City of the Irish League, who qualifies as a North American because he holds Canadian citizenship.

Chicago Sting: The Sting have lost goalkeeper Tony Chursky to Toronto, star defender Bruce Wilson to the Cosmos and defender Luigi Martini and striker Thomas Sjoberg will not be back. The only major new signing so far is goalkeeper Phil Parkes from Vancouver. Still with players such as Karl Heinz Granitza, Arno Steffenhagen, Jorgen Kristensen and Horst Blankenburg, they have the experience needed to win their division once again.

Dallas Tornado: Very few changes here. Alex Stepney, Gert Trinklein, Wolfgang Rausch, Flemming Lund and Zequinha all return, and they are joined by Klaus Toppmoller from Kaiserslautern. If Dallas can put it all together they could have a very good season.

Detroit Express: Trevor Francis will be sorely missed from this team who otherwise will have much the same line-up as last season. One new signing of interest is Pato Margetic obtained from Atletico Temperley in Argentina.

Edmonton Drillers: The Drillers will be watched with interest this season after doing so well in terms of attendance last season despite having a poor team. This year they should do much better with NASL coach of the year Timo Liekoski at the helm. The question is, how many fans per game will a successful Driller team attract if a poor team could average close to 10,000 per game? Liekoski retains the better players from last season like Dwight Lodeweges, Lorenz Hilkes and Jan Goosens and has added Finnish international goalkeeper Pertii Alaja, West German midfielders Klaus Heinlein and Edward Kirschner from Sp Vgg Furth and will have Hamburger SV captain Peter Nogly when the West German season is over.

Fort Lauderdale Strikers: Hungry for success the Strikers have signed Francisco Marinho from New York, picked up goalkeeper Fernando Herrera and defender Eduardo Bonvallet from Chile and will still have Gerd Muller and Teofilo Cubillas in the line-up, thus making them one of the most attractive teams in the league. However, they will still have to get by their great rivals the Tampa Bay Rowdies if they are to improve on last year's disappointing performance.

Houston Hurricane: About all that has changed here so far is the coach, and it will be surprising if the Hurricane repeat last year's success.

Los Angeles Aztecs: New ownership prompted the transfer of Johan Cruyff, but coach Rinus Michels after some indecision has been persuaded to stay on. Newcomers here are Americans Gary Etherington and Santiago Formoso picked up in a trade with the New York Cosmos. The Aztecs are something of a question mark for 1980.

NORTH AMERICA

by Colin Jose

Curtis Leeper of the Pittsburgh Spirit (left) moves in on Juli Veee of the Arrows . . . right behind them, the boards, which are part of the playing area in indoor soccer in the USA. Picture by Richie Casanas.

Memphis Rogues: The team with the poorest record in the league last season has been strengthened somewhat with the signings of Paul Child from San Jose and Paul Cannell from Washington as well as Argentinian midfielder Tono Carbogniani picked up from the Cosmos.

Minnesota Kicks: So far the Kicks show few changes from 1979 when they were one of the strongest teams in the league.

New England Tea Men: Another team showing few changes for 1980 and who could struggle as they did last season.

New York Cosmos: New coach Hennes Weisweiler will not join the club until his commitment to Cologne is complete and until then Julio Mazzei will run the show. Noteable newcomers here are Brazilian full-back Oscar and Paraguayan midfielder Jorge Romero as well as Canadian full-back Bruce Wilson who is expected to take over from Marinho. The Cosmos will once again be the team to beat.

Philadelphia Fury: Eddie Firmani will no doubt have his problems here with a line-up that struggled for most of last season, but did make the play-offs. But this year they will be without Frank Worthington.

Portland Timbers: Newcomers here are Willie Donachie and Stuart Lee from Manchester City, but the Timbers will still find it hard going in a difficult division.

Rochester Lancers: The Lancers have a new coach in American Ray Klivecka, late of the Cosmos, and just about the same line-up as last season. In any other division but the National Conference East the Lancers might do very well because they have some excellent players. It will be interesting to see if young Canadian striker Branko Segota can repeat last year's form here when he scored 12 goals in 13 games at the end of last season.

San Diego Sockers: Coach Hubert Vogelsinger always manages to put a competitive team on the field while seeming to make numerous changes. For 1980 he retains part of last year's team with the most noteable addition being striker Steve David from California.

San Jose Earthquakes: After being without a coach all winter, San Jose have just acquired Bill Foulkes, the former Manchester United full-back, to run the club. Foulkes previously coached Chicago and Tulsa. He has signed former Rangers and Spurs striker Alfie Conn to add to the nucleus of last year's team. Unless there is a drastic turn around San Jose will struggle again this year.

Seattle Sounders: A new coach in Alan Hinton, coupled with new ownership and new players may well turn the Sounders into a power once again. Recent signings include Bruce Rioch and Roy Greaves along with Swedish international Reine Almqvist. They join earlier signings Jack Brand, David Nish and Roger Davies.

Tampa Bay Rowdies: It's as you were in Tampa with the exception of the retirement of Rodney Marsh, but look for the Rowdies to be in the running for the honours once again.

Toronto Blizzard: In a strong division with New York, Washington and Rochester the Blizzard will find the going difficult. New signings are Francesco Morini from Juventus, Gordon Sweetzer from Cambridge United, Mike McLenaghen from Minnesota, Tony Chursky from Chicago, Jim McAlister from Seattle and Jomo Sono from Atlanta. Peter Lorimer returns as does leading scorer Ivan Lukacevic. The Blizzard will have the nucleus of last year's team plus depth.

Tulsa Roughnecks: There are a number of new signings here including Icelandic international Johannes Edvaldson from Celtic, and Viv Busby from Stoke City. Despite the changes from last year's team plus a coaching change the Roughnecks will be a strong team again.

Vancouver Whitecaps: Goalkeeper Phil Parkes is gone to be replaced by David Harvey from Leeds United. John Craven and Peter Daniel along with Kevin Hector will be absent this season, while new signings are David Robb from Philadelphia and Ray Hankin from Leeds United. Rumour has it that the club are close to signing Rudi Krol from Ajax. The Whitecaps will find it difficult to repeat as champions.

Washington Diplomats: With Soccer Bowl 80 being held in Washington and Johan Cruyff in the line-up great things are expected from the Dips, but they will still have to get by the Cosmos who are in the same division.

As usual one can expect a number of signings in the NASL once the European seasons are over and those signings can have the effect of altering the picture drastically. However, increasingly coaches are going to have to make use of the talent on hand and in particular their North Americans who can mean the difference between success and failure.

Brian Glanville's Soccer Reflections

KUBALA'S LAMENT

ENGLAND'S chances in the European Championship now seem quite substantial, even if the Spanish team they beat last March in Barcelona was a ludicrous one. My chief fear of them in Naples, where they play England next June, is that they will kick lumps out of them; still larger lumps than they did at the Nou Camp, where the fouls committed by such as Migueli and Guisasola were in one sense appalling, but in another were merely the measure of their despair.

The Spanish journalists themselves find it hard to understand the policies of Ladislao Kubala, who seems really to have had his day as a team manager. I suppose you can stay too long in office. Alf Ramsey certainly did; his policies ossified, and he should have been on his way long before 1974. The measure of his theoretical bankruptcy was that ghastly day in West Berlin early in 1972 when England needed a two goal victory to nullify West Germany's 3-1 win at Wembley, and Ramsey lost heart, putting out a team of cloggers to draw 0-0. After that match, Gunter Netzer wryly observed: "The whole England team has autographed my leg."

Kubala has, to give him his due, been getting his Spanish teams into the finals of major competitions, which is more than England, on the whole, has done; but their performance in the 1978 World Cup was feeble, while their qualification for the European Championship this June was a fiasco. They made a good start to the qualifying tournament while the Yugoslavs made a bad one. Then Yugoslavia reappointed Miljan Miljanic and have never looked back. Had they put him into the driver's seat earlier, there is little doubt they would have got through to the Finals, in Italy. They beat Spain away, but by this time, alas, it was too late.

After the game in Barcelona, an English journalist asked Kubala at the Press Conference whether these were really the best players that he had. Kubala, himself a famous treble international in his day, a Hungarian who also played for Czechoslovakia and Spain, replied that indeed he had better players, but they were 29 or 30 years old.

I was tempted to ask — but then, I was interpreting — *what* future? You cannot, alas, sacrifice the present in terms of a hypothetical future, because the future is determined by the present. Kubala seems transfixed by the phenomenon of the 1982 World Cup which will, of course, be played in Spain. Spain will therefore be expected to do enormously well, to emulate the hosts of 1974 and 1978, West Germany and Argentina, who capitalised on their home advantage to win the tournament.

My mind goes back to a conversation in 1959 in Copenhagen with that fine Danish international inside-left, John Hansen. I had known John in Italy, when he was playing with success for Juventus and Lazio. He lamented the fact that the depredations of the Italian clubs during the 1950s had destroyed the Danish international team. The experienced players had all gone, so that it was no longer possible to blood youngsters alongside veterans who could help them; they had to be thrown in at the deep end, together. Inevitably, they sank rather than swam.

It seems to me that Kubala, in his strange ingenuousness, created such a situation for himself. Hardly was the 1978 World Cup over than he jettisoned such clever players as Cardenosa, who may have missed that gilt edged chance against Brazil at Mar del Plata, but remained one of the cleverest inside-forwards in the Spanish League. He also ignored a half-back of the quality of Real Madrid's Del Bosque, who played superbly for Real in both European Cup quarter-final games against Celtic. True, against England he had to do without two of his key midfielders in Asensi — showing signs of wear and tear and ruthlessness now — and the young Real Sociedad player, Zamora, but those whom he brought in to take their places were inept. What is more, everybody knew they were inept. You had only to take a glance at the Spanish midfield before the match to know that it wouldn't be able to stand up to England's.

What, meanwhile, of England themselves? The opposition in Barcelona may have been feeble, but the performances of Trevor Francis, Tony Woodcock, Kevin Keegan, Butch Wilkins and Steve Coppell were exceedingly pleasing. Woodcock and Francis gave the most solid cause for hope, not least because they seemed at least to get out from under Keegan's shadow and express the talents which they so abundantly possess. Each has, with certain exceptions such as last June's Bulgarian match in Sofia, given much less than his potential for England. Against Eire, Woodcock had a wretched game and complained on his return to Cologne that the England players just would not give him the ball to feet, as he wanted.

Francis, who shares with Woodcock a shy and introverted temperament which is at odds with Keegan's ebullient self-promotion, has clearly felt uneasy in the same team. The theme song of the game in Barcelona might well have been, for both these splendid players, *Begone Dull Care*. Keegan was no longer writing, producing and directing the play; he shouldn't be allowed to, if only for his own good. Keegan, when he plays in midfield, has this in common with Bobby Charlton; he's not truly a creative footballer but what he can do, as Italy's Enzo Bearzot said to me the day after the game, is so easily beat his man, thus forcing another defender to commit himself. Keegan has made himself into a very fine player, invaluable to England, but it is in his own interests that he play within his limitations, play to his strengths, and not be allowed to obscure talents which may be even greater than his own.

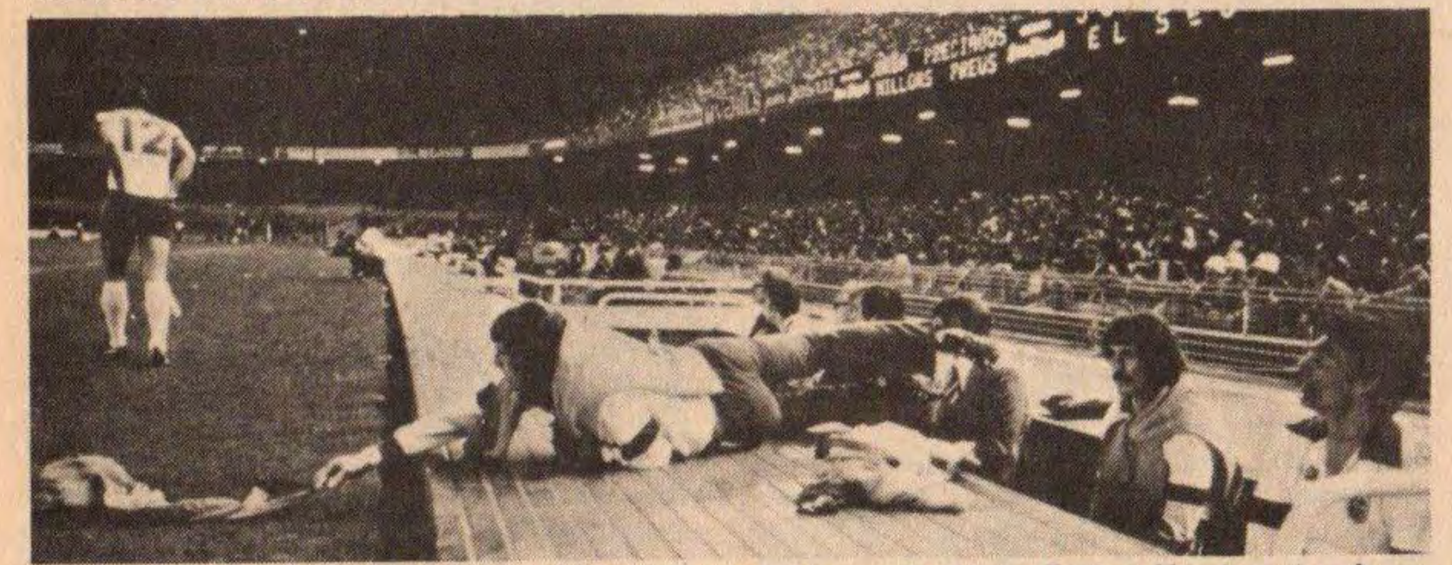
Laurie Cunningham was publicly complaining about it after his own poor performance at Wembley against Eire. Keegan, he said, was a marvellous player and it was natural that he be given his head, but this in turn prevented other players getting such freedom.

There are very few teams in Europe which would not joyfully use Cunningham in their attack. He played so superbly in Barcelona for Real Madrid that they are talking about him there still. But he must be allowed to roam, to wander, in a word, to "do his own thing." The team must not be allowed to suffer from Keeganitis; and there were healthy signs in Spain that it won't.

Steve Coppell complicated matters by playing so remarkably well. Before the game, such had been his recent form for Manchester United, his choice seemed a bizarre mistake. But he was so sharp and quick and mobile and energetic that he played a key part both in defence and in attack, setting up both the English goals. Since he can hardly now be left out and since Ray Wilkins, who always likes these games in which people stand off him, did such a fine job in midfield, even the excellent Trevor Brooking's place has been put in jeopardy.

Let us not be over euphoric. Peter Shilton, or Ray Clemence, and Dave Watson apart, the defence won't really do, and there is still a manifest need for a tackling half-back in midfield. The opposition of Italy, in the first qualifying group, and whoever out of West Germany and Holland wins the other group, won't be remotely as feeble as the Spaniards. Nor are the Belgians, whom England meet in their first game, to be taken anything but very seriously.

Still, Francis and Woodcock have shown that they are forwards of the highest ability, modern and versatile and gifted to a degree. Add them to Keegan, and you have the foundation of a fine team. It is all to Ron Greenwood's credit that he has encouraged such players to express themselves.



Ray Clemence makes a great 'save' to retrieve substitute Emlyn Hughes track suit during England's game in Spain.

SWITZERLAND

by Arthur Rotmil

ATTENDANCES DROP AS EXPERIMENTS END IN FAILURE

NO OTHER problem has caused so much heated argument and discussion during the past few years as the question of finding the right championship formula. The experiment with now 14 clubs in the First Division (National-Liga A), who after the 26-match programme take half the points total with them to a play-off pool of six clubs, has been declared a failure.

Gates have been down for the public was losing interest in games between the also-rans and in any event the matches between the top teams could not guarantee full points. This system, unique in world football, is at last to be scrapped. As from the 1981-82 season the Swiss will have two Divisions of 16 clubs each. Next season the 14 clubs will play a normal series without the play-off pool. Then one club will be relegated, but three promoted to bring the total to 16 teams.

It must be said that the clubs have brought the troubles on themselves. The big clubs with large staff and run on semi-professional lines, need the money to keep financially solvent and they favour a large league, or at least a large number of fixtures. The smaller clubs are divided, because the current formula meant that after the initial stage of the championship only the top six clubs were still involved, for the bottom eight the season had effectively ended.

The neutrals fear that a large league will dilute the competition with too much "dead wood" just making up the numbers. Most Swiss are concerned that too many fixtures hamper the cause of the national team which will be playing in the World Cup qualifying matches next season. Proposals ranged from 16 clubs in the First and Second Divisions to just a "Super League" embracing merely eight clubs!

Switzerland is frankly in no position to persist with a large number of fixtures because the enforced winter break produces a gap which only the summer months can fill, but then the footballers would get no holidays and there would be no off-season like in all other European countries.

After the customary winter pause the season resumed in mid-February with the League Cup. Switzerland is the only country on the Continent staging this competition and interest is not great. A total of 9,000 fans came to the eight matches, of those 3,000 alone in Lucerne. The "excuse" was, the competition from the televised Winter Olympics was too great . . .

All the fancied teams got through as expected. In the quarter-finals again the top teams qualified — FC Zurich, Grasshoppers, Servette and Lucerne. Again Lucerne had the best crowd, 3,700 for the visit of Xamax. The semi-final pairings were Grasshoppers v. FC Zurich and Servette v. Lucerne.

In the championships Grasshoppers were beaten 4-2 and overtaken at the top by Servette; FC Zurich and Basel remained, together with Lucerne in contention, but neither of these teams was fancied to win the title. Grasshoppers are definitely losing their famous German manager Jürgen Sundermann. He left VfB Stuttgart last season because his family didn't want to lose their residential qualification and decided to become Swiss citizens. But now Sundermann feels he cannot go on without the Bundesliga atmosphere.

"Football in Germany is an important facet of everyday life — in Switzerland it is just a side-kick" explained the coach; this difference in attitude which is making his work with Swiss part-timers a heavy and thankless burden. "No Swiss parent would seriously consider that a career as a professional footballer is suitable for his son," complains Sundermann, who was immediately linked with half-a-dozen Bundesliga clubs, but has decided to return to Stuttgart, where he coached with great success.

A sensational turn of events at FC Zurich: team manager Zlatko "Tschik" Cajkovski left the club practically overnight. His successor is Albert Sing, who has just turned 63 and who was in retirement for some years, spending most of his time cultivating roses . . .

Whether the wily German can steer the club to its former dominant role in Swiss football remains debatable. But Zurich need a strong hand, especially their young players who were not always treated with authority by the easy-going Cajkovski.

The national team's 2-0 win over European champions Czechoslovakia (goals by Sulser, pen., and Barberis) was greeted with enthusiasm. After all, the Swiss do not often celebrate such successes over the greats of European football. The rebuilt side applied themselves well to the task and there were hopes for a repeat performance against Greece in Zurich a few days later and for a bigger crowd than the 12,000 at Basel to see the Czechs.

National team manager Leon Walker (42) was delighted and he has now been confirmed in office as fully responsible for preparations of the side up to and including the 1982 World Cup. There was some opposition to his appointment, notably from a mass circulation newspaper. This took the form of getting sponsors to pay extraordinary bonuses to international players to induce better performances and the finding of a new national coach who would be paid an exorbitant salary, also as an inducement. But the Football Federation (SFV) decided quite properly to carry on with Walker and their choice has been well received by the majority of those concerned with the well-being of the game.

An innovation in Swiss football: As from April random dope tests are being carried out at selected matches, just like in England, to find out if such a problem exists in the National League. As from July there could be severe penalties for clubs and players, if found using stimulants.

CAF ACT OUT THIS

VIOLENCE, cheating and indiscipline — described as "this malaise" by Mourad Fahmy, secretary of the African Football Confederation (CAF) — is on the increase in African football.

Now CAF, whose critics have accused it of failing to assume the role it must play in continental football, that is, to cleanse the game from "this malaise", have at long last come to their senses and promised to stamp out the curse of African football.

The undertaking was given by Fahmy during his address to the 14th session of CAF's general assembly in Lagos, Nigeria, on the eve of the Africa Cup of Unity finals.

True, no Africa Cup game has ended without some sort of the breach of the rules of the game, either on the part of players, fans, match officials or security personnel.

In Fahmy's words, "this malaise" of indiscipline has gone beyond the youthful impetuosity and exuberance among players on the field. The tune of indiscipline has been in many various forms: referees being beaten up for failure to collude with teams to win matches, security personnel becoming instruments of intimidation and hostility, buses and cars provided by the host associations to visiting teams being stoned and damaged between playing fields and hotels to and from matches.

Efforts to curb these acts are bedevilled by the intransigence of top-ranking sports officials working under the misguided belief that victory in sport is synonymous with growth in national status and prestige.

To remove this cancer, CAF has had to pass severe sanctions against some national associations and officials. Some African governments have also joined hands with CAF in the fight against indiscipline.

In June, 1973, the Malagasy Government took strong measures against its federation of football associations following the attack by Fortior Majunga football club fans on Kabwe Warriors of Zambia in Tananarive, the Malagasy capital, during the second tie of the Africa Cup of Club Champions. The government dismissed that country's commissioner of police for failing to give enough protection to Warriors players against rioting fans. The Malagasy Federation of Football Associations was also dissolved.

The riot was one of the worst to happen on the continent. Five Warriors players — Boniface Simutowe, Oliver Musonda, Stan Malama, Marias Mibenge and goalkeeper Simon Kapende — had their heads deeply cut. One other player, Sandford Mvula had his wrist fractured. Team manager Peter Nyongani had his collar bone broken.

Warriors coach Lasky Mwandu described the incident as "bloody". The whole soccer pitch appeared like a battle field with soldiers grappling with angry spectators.

"We are lucky we have arrived back alive, otherwise we would have been brought back in coffins," Mwandu said.

From the start of the match, the crowd appeared unruly: the trouble was sparked off when the three-goal hero, Godfrey

NIGERIA ARE

AFTER three previous unsuccessful attempts Nigeria, playing before a partisan crowd of 85,000 fans finally won the 12th African Nations Soccer Cup when they crushed Algeria 3-0 in the cup final in Lagos. Thus Nigeria becomes the eighth nation to win the title after Ghana, Morocco, Zaire, Congo, Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt.

The new champions were presented with a new trophy — the Africa Cup of Unity — which was donated by the Supreme Council for sport in Africa to replace the original cup which Ghana kept in 1978 after a third victory.

The original cup was donated by Lt.-General Mustapha of Egypt at the inception of the biennial tournament in 1957.

Indeed Nigeria wrapped up the title in a grand finale: their indomitable captain, the 29-year-old Christian Chukwu, who plays centre-half, was voted the best player of the tournament. Chukwu has been captain of the team, the Green Eagles, since they won the soccer title at the second All Africa Games in Lagos in 1973.

The men who spearheaded Nigeria's destruction of Algeria were Segun Adgbami, who netted two goals in the second and 42nd minute, and Muda Lawal in the 50th minute.

No one could have been much happier at Nigeria's enthralling victory than civilian president Shehu Shagari. Before the start of the competition President Shagari saw the Green Eagles at their training headquarters in Lagos. He told them that the Nigerian nation needed nothing but victory, and the Green Eagles achieved that wish.

They launched their assault with a sound 3-1 thumping of Taifa Stars of Tanzania in the opening match of group one in Lagos. The match was watched by President Shagari. In this match, Nigeria raced to a 2-0 lead at the break with goals coming from Alloysius Atuegbu and Afeanyi Onyedika.

In their second match, the Eagles were given a real fright by Ivory Coast, escaping with a goalles draw. They beat Egypt 1-0 to finish top of group one.

In the semi-finals, Nigeria scrambled to a narrow one goal victory against Morocco, runners-up to Algeria in group two.

Nigeria's tournament strategy was to inundate the opponents' goal with quick, fast and staccato attacks, which in some way paid off handsomely.

Energy

But Nigeria could have paid dearly with this type of exertion and energy sapping football. They played fast football alright in the first 45 minutes but then wilted out in the second half. Tanzania nearly exploited this weakness when they made an all out push to reduce the deficit when Peter Tino centred for Juma to hammer the ball home.

The 65,000 fans at the stadium, who were given the bonus of watching the next game at no extra charge, started booing the home team as it took to defence without really managing to contain the flow of the Tanzanian raids.

Their coach, Brazilian Otto Gloria, was forced to have a pep talk with Green Eagles and told them that they must pace themselves for the entire 90 minutes if they were going to withstand the opponents pressure.

But the disappointment of the tournament were the defending champions, Ghana. Ghana were a shadow of their normal selves. They laboured to a goalless draw in their first game of group two against Algeria at Ibadan, scraped a 1-0 victory against Guinea and were bundled out of the tournament by Morocco with a 45th minute goal scored by El Bied.

One could see disappointment on the faces of the Ghanaians as they trooped out of the Liberty stadium. Ghana's defeat was indeed the upset of the entire tournament, and the Black Stars were short of committing harakiri.

However, Morocco's 1-0 triumph brought them on par in points with Ghana on the completion of group two matches, but the higher goals scored by Morocco took them to the semi-finals to join Algeria who topped group two.

The semi-final clashes brought Algeria face to face with group one runners-up Egypt, and Nigeria against Morocco.

Algeria, under the Yugoslav coach, Khalef Rakov, were the most impressive side in each of their games and their consistency was evident by their goalless draw draw against Ghana, a 1-0 win over Morocco and a 3-2 routing of Guinea.

Their preliminary qualifying round against Morocco was charged by ill tempers and rough play, characterised by a punch-up, a sending off and threats of a Tunisian referee, Doidi Ali. Sent off was Morocco's Hunine Bouchkhachek who punched Algeria's full-back Guendouz in the ribs. Referee Doidi was a target of enraged Moroccan players and officials after he had ended the game a few seconds after Algeria had scored through Lakhdar Belloumi.

TO STAMP 'MALAISE'

Chitalu, gave Warriors a 3-0 lead in the second half of the game. Having lost the first tie 4-0 to Warriors in Zambia, Majunga fans became enraged by the latest defeat in Tananarive. The mob swelled and forced Kabwe Warriors players to heap themselves in the centre of the ground.

The players were attacked from all directions with a wave of stones. Players and officials had to shield themselves with chairs and buckets from stones. One player, Philip Tembo, was so shocked that he had to be taken away unconscious.

But the army and armed police, helped by torrential rain, finally managed to drive away the angry mob.

Because of the seriousness of the riot, the Malagasy government wasted no time and sent to Lusaka its director of bilateral relations, Claude Ratsinadresy, to brief the Zambian government on the riot and what measures his government was going to take against the culprits.

That is the state of affairs in African football today. But it will need all the available resources at the disposal of CAF, of course with the help of all African governments and sports journalists, to heal the deformity of African football.

While CAF are trying to fight violence and indiscipline in football, a more serious evil is emerging: some national associations, in trying to win matches at all costs, are falsifying dates of birth of their players to allow them take part in youth competitions.

Fahmy observes: "Such acts are extremely harmful to sports morality and to the youths upon whom we rely for the welfare of Africa."

CAF are equally worried about the quality of the game, in terms of technical skills. To improve the soccer standards and technical quality, CAF have therefore undertaken to organise technical courses for coaches in various regions of the continent.

The courses, which will be spread over a period of two years, will be of three weeks duration and will be attended by African coaches who have taken part in FIFA project No. 1 courses whose emphasis was on the fields of administrative organisation, sports medicine and refereeing.

The courses will group 20 to 30 participants, a maximum of two candidates per country. The cost of the courses will be shared by FIFA, CAF, organising and participating associations.

For practical reasons, CAF have decided that participation will depend on language and have grouped CAF member associations into six linguistic groups.

They are: (1) Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Libya; (2) Ethiopia, Kenya, Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, Uganda; (3) Mauritius, Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Lesotho, Botswana, Swaziland; (4) Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad; (5) Ivory Coast, Guinea, Senegal, Upper Volta, Togo, Benin, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde; (6) Cameroun, Central Africa, Zaire, Congo, Gabon, Rwanda, Madagascar, Angola and Burundi.

CHAMPIONS

Algeria's semi-final against Egypt was thrilling all the way but Algeria, through their methodical and incessant bombardment of the Egyptian goal, won the day 4-2 on penalties after the teams were level 2-2 after extra time.

But Algeria's unbeaten run was obliterated by hosts Nigeria in a breeze of three great goals in the final.

Financially, the 12th Africa Cup of Nations was indeed a money-spinner for the African Football Confederation (CAF).

The first opening match netted about £100,000, and about £25,000 for television rights from the Nigerian Football Association. By the time the final balance sheet is prepared, CAF whose cash balance before the commencement of the tournament was in the region of £250,000, will have its coffers bulging handsomely.

The finals of the 13th cup will be hosted by Libya in 1982, but this will depend if Libya will be able to provide facilities for the two-week finals.

CAF also hope to introduce doping tests on players during the next cup final. CAF president Tessema of Ethiopia, who retained his presidency during CAF's congress on the eve of the cup finals in Nigeria, said: "We knew too late that Nigeria had the facilities. If there are facilities (in Libya) to test both the conventional drug-taking and the doping administered by witch-doctors, we shall be able to perform the exercise."

Buckets, bags, batons . . . anything was good enough to hide behind.

Final results and standings in group one in Lagos: Nigeria 3 Tanzania 1, Egypt 2 Ivory Coast 1, Nigeria 0 Ivory Coast 0, Egypt 2 Tanzania 1, Nigeria 1 Egypt 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nigeria	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Egypt	3	2	0	1	4	3	4
Ivory Coast	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Tanzania	3	0	1	2	3	6	1

Group two at Ibadan: Ghana 0 Algeria 0, Morocco 1 Guinea 1, Ghana 1 Guinea 0, Algeria 1 Morocco 1, Morocco 1 Ghana 0, Algeria 3 Guinea 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Algeria	3	2	1	0	4	2	6
Morocco	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
Ghana	3	1	1	1	1	1	3
Guinea	3	0	1	2	3	5	1

AFRICA by James Mwambazi

England can win the European Championship

AT a time when the game goes through a period of decline you can usually expect English football to be in at the kill or thereabouts in all the big competitions. And in the forthcoming European championships in Italy there is not one team that I would care to place a small bet on.

The West Germans were looking good, winning their qualifying group with a goals tally of 17 goals for and only one against, but the complexion of their side changed completely when centre-forward Klaus Fischer broke his leg in March.

With no replacement for Fischer, the Germans dropped to the level of the Dutch who qualified largely through the failings of East Germany who led them 2-0 in the last qualifying game in Leipzig and let the Dutchmen off the hook who went on to win 3-2.

Czechoslovakia appear to be going through one of their indecisive periods after crashing 0-2 to little Switzerland, and Greece are only there because of the failures of Hungary and the USSR.

So the toughest group is now England's, and Italy with home advantage are in the driving seat.

I don't expect Belgium to pull off a major surprise, and Spain do not have the necessary penetration in attack to be a real problem.

In my opinion the boots (and fists) will fly in June, but here England are amongst the most physical without being dirty, and well able to soak up anything the Latins throw at them.

So with a little luck England have a very good chance.

I know that Ron Greenwood doesn't like anyone criticising his team. In his position I wouldn't like it either, for he is trying to build up morale and confidence.

So let me make just two minor points. I believe that Ron himself would have liked to include an old-fashioned English centre-forward. But looking around there just isn't one. Paradoxically, the England camp have just the man they need in Geoff Hurst. In his prime, he was a perfect target man, laying off first-time balls of quality, repositioned himself quickly, and was often amongst the scorers with head and foot.

Such a player would transform England and terrify the Italians, but unfortunately he does not exist today.

So in the circumstances, lacking more mobile full-backs with better balance to withstand the one v. one probings on the ground, Ron will rightly stay with what he's got. In fact, because the opposition will probably play with only two upfield, and three at the most, the England back four should outnumber them and be able to find an extra man to provide depth and cover.

What they will have to watch is for sudden breaks from midfield by gifted players like Giancarlo Antognoni and Francois Van der Elst. But then it is expected that Ray Clemence will come to the rescue.

The midfield is England's strength where I firmly believe Kevin Keegan is at his best, breaking forward from deep positions and always a danger both as a likely scorer and as a creator of chances for others.

With Steve Coppell playing up and down the pitch according to the flow of the game and Trevor Brooking working harder than ever before yet still able to produce a shimmy with his shoulders and an unexpected turn on the ball before he lays on inch perfect passes and crosses, Ray Wilkins hangs further back normally, adding stability to the team.

Up front, although Tony Woodcock has always liked a centre-forward to play off he has looked good so far for England without one, and if I never rated Trevor Francis as a great player, he does appear to be improving with coaching at Nottingham Forest.

Both these central strikers have the necessary punch, are good in the air and are quick. And that will have to do. Much will rest on their shoulders as the major providers of goals, and if they do not fluff too many chances they can expect Keegan as a secondary striker to chip in a few, with Coppell and Watson getting the odd one or two, over three or four games.

Kevin Keegan in action for England against Spain.

LOA

I WAS interested to read Brian Glanville's comments last month about the misuse of the Football League's loan scheme. He advocates a switch to the Italian style loan where First Division (Serie A) clubs, loan out their young players not immediately required so they can gain experience playing in someone else's first team.

If they develop as expected they can be brought back to play for the club that own the loaned player, and if they don't they have been exposed to likely purchasers by playing first team football.

The difference is, of course, that in Italy the players are sent on loan for the whole season, whereas in England the scheme works on a month by month basis.

I agree there should be some limit on the length of time that a player can be transferred on loan, but that should be built into the system. If the lending club feels that the prospective purchaser has had enough time to assess whether or not they can make use of the loaned players talents then they can say "no" when asked to renew the loan period.

With regard to Howard Gayle, who was

Trevor Francis attacks the Spanish goal during England's 2-0 win.

The ERIC BATTY viewpoint

If it is not the ideal football team — where is there one today?

No one else in the last eight has a good side, and England, through Ron Greenwood's policy of making the best of what he has, and keeping them together, has turned his squad into the next best thing to a League side.

That, in today's climate should be enough, as long as they don't get injuries to the above team too close to the big event. If what happened to Klaus Fischer was to strike at Kevin Keegan then the situation would change dramatically, but as Ron Greenwood has said: "Given ordinary luck" — in the way of injuries he no doubt means — "we have a good side and a good chance."

Any criticisms I have of the England team should be aimed at the Football League clubs who are so busy playing 4-4-2 and tying games up tactically, as Liverpool and Arsenal did in the FA Cup semi-finals, that they have failed to produce the types of player that Ron Greenwood needs for a truly great side.

He has done a fine job, keeping his team together, yet carefully blooding several reserves in case he needs them.

He will not be caught as Alf Ramsey was in the 1970 World Cup when Gordon Banks went down on match day with a tummy bug and found that Peter Bonetti had not played a game in many weeks. All his reserves will be blooded in the Home Championship and raring to go.

But I will be surprised if the team I think Ron Greenwood will play in Italy does not meet Scotland in the final test before the off, because that is the big one in Britain, and the final examination before going on to what should be "THE HIGH SCHOOL".

It will not be a real high school of soccer in Italy because the quality of the opposition is quite ordinary, and I really expect both Italy and Spain to put plenty of stick about in frustration.

But this is the team that I think Ron Greenwood will stick to if everyone is fit in Italy, and it could do very well indeed, with any kind of luck:

Clemence (Liverpool)

Neal (Liverpool) — Thompson (Liverpool) — Watson (Southampton) — Mills (Ipswich

Keegan (Hamburg SV) — Wilkins (Manchester United) — Brooking (West Ham)

Coppell (Manchester United) — Francis (Notts Forest) — Woodcock (IFC Köln)

N BEFORE YOU BUY

on loan from Liverpool to Fulham, I have no doubt that Liverpool knew what they were doing. Either they wanted to give Gayle first team experience without weakening their League side, or they wanted him up for show so that a prospective purchaser could see him play in Division Two.

I do agree that the system is open to abuse, particularly in these days when so few transfers actually go through for cash, or at least are made by monthly payments.

But in these days of outrageously inflated transfer fees, if I were a club manager, I would not want to hand over £500,000 or more for a player without having the chance to work with him on the training ground, talk to him, and by having him play for me, see if he can play to orders.

Watching a player in action for another club one can learn just so much. His skill should be apparent, as should his pace and general condition, but he should obviously look at his best playing in a team in which he has had time to get to know how his colleagues play.

It is clear to me that while some clubs are coaching their players today to do things in attack, many other clubs are not. They are still allowing the players to play their own game.

Thus, with far too many players, all they have to offer is in their boots — they have nothing upstairs — and I know from having watched professional clubs in training that many players are virtually uncoachable.

You either play them as they are — or you get rid of them quick, for as much as you can.

It is just as obvious, however, that we are now in the middle of a period in which there are not enough top quality strikers to go round.

This is equally true in Italy, Spain and West Germany and it has been obvious for some years in other countries.

The tragedy is that whenever a big name striker comes up for transfer, there is such a scramble to sign him at inflated fees that no one gets the chance to have him on even a one month trial.

So many clubs have been forced to gamble £1 million on whether or not they will be able to improve a player or not, and this has happened to many more at lesser fees.

It is no guarantee either, to buy a player from a club with a good coach, because they may be parting with him solely because they cannot do anything with him.

You won't find out anytning until you get him on the training ground and try to get him to perform little skills that are new to him, or add to his "technical knowledge" as Ron Greenwood calls it, by practices in small groups.

If the player is "thick" you can save an awful lot of money if you only have him on loan . . . merely by sending him back to his old club with thanks. But at today's prices it can be very costly to pay a big fee for a player and find out later that you can do nothing with him.

I would go much further than Brian, but in the opposite direction. I would like to see a new rule that prescribes a four-week trial period before any transfer is completed . . . to protect clubs from being mugged.

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EXCHANGES

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FOR EXCHANGE World War II Vol 1 Nos 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, against two small metal lapel badge each; World Soccers 1965, Oct, Nov, Dec, 1966 Feb, Mar, April, July, Aug, Sept, Nov, Dec 1967, all except Oct issue against two small metal lapel badge each and very rare programme of Malta-England, one lapel badge each. I have six programmes of the above European Nations Cup match for exchange. All letters will be answered. Tony Polidano, "Edna", Belvedere Street, Gzira, Malta.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXCHANGE metal badges of football clubs with collectors from all over the world. Especially interested in badges of UK, Luxembourg, Holland, Belgium and Scandinavian countries. Zdanek Kucera, Marxova 624, 278 Ol Kralupy n/Vlt. II., okr. Melnik, Czechoslovakia.

I HAVE 220 MINT CONDITION Tottenham home programmes 66-77, and including 58/9 and 59/60 v Man Utd, for exchange. What I require is any Arsenal programmes, or finals, pre-war, European specials or similar interesting items. Roy Glascock, 17 Ansgar Road, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3EJ, England.

28-YEAR-OLD ENGLISHMAN, very interested in West German football, wishes to correspond with German male of similar age able to speak English, to share football views, magazines and programmes, etc. R. C. Donkin, 13 Clayfield Close, Burnby Lane, Pocklington, Yorkshire, England.

OCTOBER 1979 WORLD SOCCER, exchange Sept 1978 issue. Also Shoots! English programmes and soccer annuals to swap for foreign programmes. Kevin Bone, 76 Stanton Road, Regents Park, Southampton, Hants.

WANTED: programmes, badges and pennants of Continental clubs. Swap for issues of Shoot or British League and Cup programmes. Only English spoken. R. Farley, 8 Westwood Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, England.

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PEN PALS

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I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND with soccer enthusiasts from all over the world exchanging information, cuttings and pictures about soccer. I have results of most Asian tournaments. Peter A. K. Lim, PO Box No 83, Teluk Anson, Perak, Malaysia.

ARGENTINIAN MALE, 21 years old, would like to correspond with boys and girls all over the world. Interests include: Collecting magazines, football, travel, etc. Eduardo Cosentino. Marinez de Hoz 1289. Villa Progreso. San Martin (1650). Buenos Aires. Argentina.

24-YEAR-OLD MALE from Yugoslavia, wishes to correspond with sports collectors from all over the world. Hobbies: sports books, magazines, badges, pennants, programmes and stamps. You can write me English, French, German and Russian. Vladan Markovic, Dusana Popovica 5, 35000 Svetozarevo. Yugoslavia.

15-YEAR-OLD BOY supporting Manchester United would like to correspond in English with Valencia supporter similar age. Roger Paterson, 15 Firswood Drive, Swinton, Manchester, England.

I WILL CORRESPOND with anyone world-wide to exchange football statistics about clubs, players, in their country. All letters replied to. M. Murphy. Selly Oak. Iona Dr. N.C.R. Limerick. Eire.

13-YEAR-OLD ASTON VILLA SUPPORTER wishes to correspond in English, with VFB Stuttgart supporters, any age, world-wide. Anthony West. 247 Reddicap Heath Road. Sutton Coldfield. West Midlands. England.

15-YEAR-OLD BOY supporting Ipswich Town would like to get information on any big European teams, eg magazines, etc. and am interested in finding a regular pen friend, about soccer and other interests. Peter Ring. 40 Fairway. Keyworth. Nottingham. England.

I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND with people from all over the world. Favourite sports; soccer and ice hockey. I would particularly like to correspond with people from all over the American Continent and Europe. Andrew Brawnlie Jnr. 59 Somerville Drive. Carnwath. Lanark. Scotland. UK.

I AM 14 and would like a Manchester United pen pal. I support Man Utd and for the past two years have been a ballboy for Newport County. I would like the pen pal between the age of 13 and 15. David Roberts, 1 Penylan Road, Newport, Gwent, NPT 8AD.

WATERFORD SUPPORTER WANTED to correspond with a 17-year-old Waterford and League of Ireland enthusiast living in England. Write to Kevin Haney, 16 Throstle Avenue, Western Bank, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 9QZ, England.

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17-YEAR-OLD NEWCASTLE SUPPORTER would like to exchange programmes and views with persons of a similar age (in English only). Ian Golightly, 7 Ashford, Allerdene Estate, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, NE9 6SG.

PEN PALS WANTED who support Landskrona, Xamax, Winterslag and NEC Nijmegen, to exchange views, souvenirs, statistics, etc. Only English spoken. Write Andrew Giblin, 54 Harrow Avenue, Oldham, Lancs, England.

I WOULD LIKE PEN PALS preferably English or West German. I am 13 and I only speak English. Any interest in Kevin Keegan welcomed. Joan Stevenson, 6 Wellcroft Place, Glasgow, G5 9DE, Scotland.

I WOULD LIKE PEN PALS from Europe and America. I am 15 and speak only English. Johan Cruyff information and interest mandatory. Patricia Stevenson, 6 Wellcroft Place, Glasgow, G5 9DE, Scotland.

PEN PALS WANTED to exchange programmes, especially Germany and Eastern Europe, but will answer all letters received. Adrian Neale, 9 Lennard, Street, Newport, Gwent, NPT 0EJ.

ROB RENSENBRINK AND JOHAN NEESKENS posters, pictures, articles, etc, are urgently wanted — anything at all. I'd also like to correspond with any of their fans or European soccer fans from all over the world. My address is: Joanne Yau, 34 Lancashire Road, 2/F, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong.

31-YEAR OLD MALE badge collector would like to correspond in English or Polish with soccer fans with similar interest. Piotr Komorniczak, Kremeronska 6/8, 31-130 Krakow, Poland.

PEN-PALS WANTED who support the following clubs to exchange programmes and souvenirs: Linfield, PSV, Ajax, Bastia, St Etienne, Barcelona, Juventus. Write to: Calum Macdonald, 4 North Shawbost, Isle of Lewis, Scotland, PA86 9BD.

I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND, in English with anyone who regularly watches Grasshoppers Zurich, Juventus, Magdeburg, FC Zurich and Rapid Vienna. I would also like to exchange souvenirs. Please write to: Kevin Hany, 16 Throstle Avenue, Western Bank, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 9QZ, England.

I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND WITH ANYONE who will exchange information and statistical facts about soccer clubs, players, the league and the international team in their country. Also wanted: player/team pictures, magazines and eventually souvenirs. I would preferably like to write to people from all over Europe and all over America. I can write in English, German and Danish. I would also like help in starting a programme collection. Niels Kreisholt, Skolegrade 7,4200 Slagelse, Denmark.

I AM A 19-YEAR-OLD AUSTRIAN, living in Canada, and would like to correspond with boys aged 16—19 and who are native Swedes or Icelandics and fans of Elfsborg Boras or Valur Rekjavik. Write as soon as possible to John Sauer, 1955 Woodway Pl., Nr. 107, Burnaby, B.C. V5B 4S5, Canada. Will correspond in English, German or French.

I AM A 31-YEAR-OLD English soccer fan who supports Manchester United and is interested in world soccer. I am trying to improve my French and would like to write in French to a pen-pal from France who is interested in soccer and who may wish to write in either English or French. Derek Hives, 18 Annesdale, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 4BN, England.

I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND with soccer fans from Holland, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Portugal, South America and Eastern Europe, exchanging information, cuttings, pictures and magazines about soccer. I would also like help in starting pennant, badge and programme collections. Write to: Niels Kreisholt, Skolegade 7, 4200 Slagelse, Denmark.

34-YEAR-OLD ENGINGEER wishes to correspond with British soccer fan in English or French and to exchange club badges — British for Yugoslav and Europe. 1HG Stošić Ivan, Titova, M5/2, 3500, Svetozarevo, Yugoslavia.

KEEN STUDENT INTERNATIONAL SOCCER (club and national), wishes to correspond in English, French, German, Italian or Spanish. All letters answered. Peter Cockburn, 15 Mallard Court, Kingsbury, London NW9, England.

MALE (18), would like correspond with native Spanish football fan (preferable resident) in Spanish, male or female. Gary Dickson, 61 Station Road, Craigavad, Co. Down, N. Ireland.

SCOTTISH SOCCER FAN wishes to correspond with Dutch soccer enthusiast (male or female, 18—25), supporting any First Division club, to exchange news and souvenirs. My name is: Alastair Robertson, 10 Atholl Crescent, Ralston, Paisley PA1 3AP, Scotland.

SOCCER, PHILATELY ENTHUSIAST (14), wishes correspond one same age and interests, Europe (in English, some French and Spanish). Robert Jones, 25 Edwards Road, Lache Park Ave, Chester CH4 8HW, England.

WEST HAM SUPPORTER living Australia seeks erudite exchange with Upton Park regular. Exchange news, souvenirs from this football wilderness for inside gen, transfers, why-we-lost diagnoses etc. Dave Sherrott, Flat 5,6 Islington Street, Sunshine 3020, Victoria, Australia.

WOULD LIKE CORRESPOND in English with European soccer fans any age. Angelo Bittarelli, 565 Technology Sq 5A, Cambridge, Mass. 02139, USA.

FRANCE, ITALY, USA, SWITZERLAND pen-pal for 15-year-old Leeds, Juventus, Koln supporter. Giuseppe Cinquemani, 44 Rosamond Road, Bedford, Beds MK40 3UG.

AMERICAN (24), wants English pen-pal who follows 1st Division and interested NASL, swaps possible. Mike Chirichella, 4624 Crossover LN, Memphis, TN 38117, USA.

AMERICAN, GERMAN, FRENCH pen-pals, to swap information, souvenirs, programmes. Michael Deal, 53 Cranleigh Drive, Whitfield, Dover, Kent CT16 3NW, England.

BOY (13), living Scotland, would like to correspond with fans similar age anywhere overseas. Andrew Brownlie Jnr, 59 Somerville Drive, Carnwath, Lanark, Scotland.

15-YEAR-OLD BOY, supports Liverpool, would like to correspond with boy of same age from East or West Germany. English speaking only. Stuart Hall, 11 Hereford Road, Whitleigh, Plymouth, Devon.

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Classified Results

INTER-CONTINENTAL
Europe-South America Cup
March 3 (2nd leg)

Olimpia (Paraguay) (1) 2 (Solalinde pen. Michelagnoli)
Malmo (Sweden) (0) 1 (Earlandsson).
Att: 35,000

Olimpia: Almeida, Solalinde, Paredes, Sosa, Bartolomeo, Torres, Kiesse, Talavera (Michelagnoli), Isasi, Yaluk (Delgado), Aquino.

Malmo: Moller, Roland, Andersson, Parkins, Jonsson, Arvidsson, Agnus Andersson, Olson, Prytz, Earlandsson, Sjoberg, Tommy Andersson.

Referee: Juan Cardelino, Uruguay.

Olimpia won trophy on 3-1 aggregate.

INTER-AMERICAN CUP

(between winners of South American (Libertadores Cup) and Central, North American and Caribbean Confederation club champions).

February 17 — 1st leg

FAS (El Salvador) (0) 3 (Casadei 2, Abraham pen.)
Olimpia (Paraguay) (2) 3 (Solalinde, Isasi 2).

March 16 — 2nd leg

Olimpia (Paraguay) (2) 5 (Michelagnoli 3, Aquino, Ortiz).
FAS (El Salvador) 0

Olimpia: Almeida, Solalinde, Paredes, Sosa, Di Bartolomeo, Torres, Kiesse, Michelagnoli, Isasi (Ortiz), Yaluk (Diaz), Aquino.

FAS: Castillo, Rodriguez Rou, Rodriguez, Henriquez (Picciono), Recinos, Alvarez, Abraham, Huezo, Herazo, Carrera (Cassadei), Gonzalez.

Referee: Edison Perez, Peru.

LIBERTADORES CUP
South American Club Championship
Group 1
February 17

Sporting Cristal (Peru) 0
Atletico Chalaco (Peru) 0

Sporting Cristal: Quiroga, Soria, Carbonell, Chumpitaz, Diaz, Quesada, Chincay, Rojas, Mosquera, Uribe, Oblitas.

At. Chalaco: Apolinario, Neyra, Arizaga, Prado, Escobar, Matias, Benavides, Chirinos, Pozu, Duarte, Camacho.

Att: 7,500.

February 28

River Plate (Argentina) 0
Velez Sarsfield (Argentina) 0

River Plate: Fillol, Comelles, Lonardi, Passarella, Tarantini, J. Lopez, De los Santos, Alonso, Gonzalez (Diaz), Heredia (Luque), Ortiz.

Velez Sarsfield: Falcioni, Gonzalez, Piazza, Jorge, Bujedo, Quinteros, Scigliano, Ischia, Castro, Jiminez (Rotondi), Damiano (Perez).

Referee: Alberto Duccatelli, Argentina.

March 1

Atletico Chalaco (Peru) 0
Velez Sarsfield (Argentina) (1) 2 (Castro, Damiano)

At. Chalaco: Apolinario, Luna, Arizaga, Prado, Escobar, Chirinos (Duarte), Benavidez, Matias, Pozu, Portilla, Camacho (Sierra).

Velez Sarsfield: Falcioni, Malaquin, Piazza, Jorge, Bujedo, Quinteros, Scigliano, Ischia (Rotondi), Castro, Jimenez, Damiano.

March 11

River Plate (Argentina) (1) 3 (Carrasco, J. Lopez, Luque)
Sporting Cristal (Peru) (2) 2 (Rojas, Uribe).

River Plate: Fillol, Comelles, Lonardi, Passarella, Tarantini, J. Lopez, De los Santos, Carrasco, Ramon Diaz, Alonso, Luque.

Sporting Cristal: Quiroga, Soria, Ruben Diaz, Chumpitaz, Navarro, Quesada, Chincay, Uribe, Mosquera, Rojas (Bazan to replace sent off Quiroga in goal, 74m.), Oblitas (Reyna).

March 14

Velez Sarsfield (Argentina) (1) 2 (Damiano 2).
Sporting Cristal (Peru) 0

Velez Sarsfield: Falcioni, Gonzalez, Piazza, Jorge, Bujedo, Quinteros, Scigliano (Rotondi), Ischia, Castro, Jiminez (J. Sanabria), Damiano.

Sporting Cristal: Bazán, Soria, Baigorria, Chumpitaz, Navarro, Quesada, Chincay, Uribe, Mosquera, Rojas, Oblitas.

Referee: Romualdo Arpi Filho, Brazil.

March 14

Group 1 standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Velez Sarsfield (Arg.)	3	2	1	0	4	0	5
River Plate (Argentina)	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Sporting Cristal (Peru)	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
At. Chalaco (Peru)	2	0	1	1	0	2	1

Group 4
March 9

Emelec (Ecuador) (0) 1 (Torres Garces)
Universidad Catolica (Ecuador) 0

Emelec: Onzari, M. Rodriguez, Manzo, Montano, Cedeno, F. Rodriguez Riolio, Valdes, Torres Garces, Alarcon, Miori.

Universidad Catolica: Quiroga, Mendez, Carrera, Landeta, Cajape, Silva, Peaz, Ron, Raffart, Estupianan, Mantilla.

Att: 45,000.

March 12

America (Colombia) (1) 1 (Pascuttini).
Independiente Santa Fe (Colombia) 0

March 16

Universidad Catolica (Ecuador) (3) 4 (Polo Carrera, Chaparro o.g., Raffart, V. Ron)
America (Colombia) (0) 2 (Pascuttini pen. 2).

Universidad Catolica: Quiroga, Mendez, Carrera, Landeta, Cajape, Silva, Polo Carrera, Arias, V. Ron, Estupinan, Raffart. (Paz and Mantilla subs.).

America: Quintero, Valencia, Pascuttini, Reyes, Chaparro, Quiñones, Gonzalez, Cannon, Battaglia, Penagos, Lugo.

Referee: Carlos Montalban, Peru.

Att: 50,000.

Emelec (Ecuador) 0
Independiente Santa Fe (Colombia) (0) 2 (Santelli, Vasquez).

March 19

Independiente Santa Fe (Colombia) (0) 1 (Santelli).
America (Colombia) (0) 1 (Canon).

Indep. Santa Fe: Mina, Restrepo, Pacheco, Gonzalez, Mideros, Flotta (Garcia), Cespedes, Faillace, Sanchez, Santelli (Balanta), Vasquez.

America: Quintero (Quiñones), Reyes, Pascuttini, Chaparro, Valencia, Caicedo, Canon, Gonzalez, Aquino, (Battaglia), Caceres, Lugo (Ferrin).

Referee: Arturo Ithurralde, Argentina.

Group 4 standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Indep. Santa Fe (Col.)	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
America (Colombia)	3	1	1	1	4	5	3
Univers. Cat. (Ecuador)	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Emelec (Ecuador)	2	1	0	1	1	2	2

MAJOR CLUB INTERNATIONALS

Instituto Cordoba (Argentina) 3 Honved (Hungary) 0 (Feb 17); Barcelona (Ecuador) 0 Olimpia (Paraguay) 2 (Feb 26); Santiagueño (El Salvador) 2 Muncipal (Guatemala) 1 (Mar 9); Aguila (El Salvador) 4 Suchitepeques (Guatemala) 3 (Mar 9).

OTHER MAJOR INTERNATIONALS

Mexico Select 1 Olimpia (Paraguay) 2 (Feb 19); Uruguay Select 1 Universidad Catolica (Chile) 0 (Mar 9).

MARCH 15

Milan
Italy 1 (Graziani 9)
Uruguay 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Yosifov (Yug).

Italy: Zoff (Bordon 46) — Gentile, Cabrini, Oriali, Collovati, Scirea, Causio, Tardelli, Rossi, Antognoni, Graziani.

Uruguay: Rodriguez — Caceres, Marcenaro, Diego (Moreira 46), Agresta, Washington, Bica (Ramos 58), De la Pena, Victorino, Caillava, Paz.

ITALY's first-ever win over Uruguay brought up the Azzurri's 200th all-time victory and took skipper Dino Zoff to his 79th cap, one in front of Yashin in the all-time international goalkeepers stakes.

Not a game in which anybody could learn anything new. Italy were at full strength apart from the ill Roberto Bettega. His place was taken by Torino's unsettled Francesco Graziani, who waited only nine minutes before snatching his 15th goal in 33 internationals.

However none of the goalkeepers were very hard pressed. Paolo Rossi let Rodriguez off the hook once when he should have 'killed' a cross from Franco Causio, but at the other end the Uruguayans were even less trouble.

Though this provided Enzo Bearzot with his fourth friendly victory of the season, it was hardly an ideal test of his team. The Uruguayans, opening their four-game European tour relied on a defensive application of 4-3-3 with a zone defence which provided little breathing space for Rossi.

Certainly he made little impression, concerned perhaps at the allegations involving him on the fringes of the bribe scandal. At one time it had been feared the police would descend on the Italian squad and whisk away one or two players, but in the end the whole occasion was extremely peaceful.

Too peaceful, probably, for Bearzot's liking.

MARCH 18

Brussels
Belgium 2 (Verheyen 68 pen, Van der Elst 86)
Uruguay 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 9,000. **Ref:** Wurtz (F).

Belgium: Custers — Gerets (Plessers 46), Meeuws, Luc Millecamp, Martens (Renquin 46) — Coeck, Vandereycken, Verheyen — Van der Elst, Van den Bergh (Dardenne 68), Ceulemans.

Uruguay: Rodriguez — Diego, Caceres, Marcenaro, Washington, Gonzales, Agresta, Caillava, De la Pena, Ramos, Victorino (Arias 68), Paz.

ALL the spies were out — Ron Greenwood, Enzo Bearzot, Jupp Derwall, Ladislao Kubala, Jan Zwartkruis and Juventus talent scout Cestmir Vycpalek.

What they saw was a disappointing match which might be said to have jusitified the decision of many fans to stay away. The Uruguayans were hardly more effective than against Italy. They just kicked more, with Nelson Agresta being sent off three minutes from time, and the yellow card coming out for Victorino and Diego.

Belgian manager Guy Thys welcomed back long-time injury victim Ludo Coeck of Anderlecht in midfield and brought in Rene Verheyen for the still-injured veteran Wilfried Van Moer.

It was Uruguay who made the first opening — Eduardo De la Pena shot far too high — before Belgium concentrated long enough to give Jan Ceulemans a couple of half chances which went begging. It was all one-way traffic now. Van den Bergh might have scored in the 33rd minute and then Rodriguez made a sharp stop to a Verheyen free-kick.

All the pressure was coming from the Belgians and they deserved to take the lead in the 68th minute through Verheyen's penalty after Marcenaro and Venancio Ramos had brought down Van den Bergh — who had to limp out of the game.

Four minutes from the end a foul on Ceulemans gave Van der Elst the chance to hit No 2 from the free-kick.

MARCH 22

Sarajevo
Yugoslavia 2 (Klincarski 8, Zlatko Vujovic 64)
Uruguay 1 (Primorac 75)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Lagoiyannis (Gr).

Yugoslavia: Pantelic — Zoran Vujovic, Hrstic, Cukrov, Primorac, Rozic, Petrovic, Sliskovic (Mirocevic), Zlatko Vujovic (Repcic), Klincarski, Susic.

Uruguay: Rodriguez — Washington, Caceres, Diego (Moreira), Marcenaro, Ramos, De la Pena, Agresta, Victorino, Caillava (Reyes), Paz.

URUGUAY went down to their third successive defeat and suffered another expulsion, this time Domingo Caceres, sent off in the 78th minute for a foul on Zlatko Vujovic.

Slav boss Miljan Miljanic named four debutants and one, Niki Klincarski, was the game's outstanding player, not only scoring the first goal, but directing operations with sense and skill. Zlatko Vujovic's second half goal ensured Yugoslavia's sixth win in six games.

MARCH 26

Nicosia — WORLD CUP, Euro group 2
Cyprus 2 (Pantzarias 27, Kaiafas 74 pen)
Rep. Ireland 3 (McGee 8, 37, Lawrenson 25)
HT: 1-3. **Att:** 10,000.

Cyprus: Stylianou — Papakostas, Neofitou, Papadopoulos, Lysandrou, Pantzarias, Demetriou (Tsingis), Mavroudis, Kaiafas, Kissonergis, Kanaris (Petros).

Rep. Ireland: Healey — Grealish, Grimes, Lawrenson, O'Leary, Brady, Daly, Murphy (O'Brien), Heighway (Ryan), Stapleton, McGee.

OPENING their World Cup account, the Irish seemed poised to outrun Cyprus after going 2-0 up in 23 minutes. Brady and Stapleton created the first for McGee, Brady also then laying on the next for Brighton's Lawrenson.

Cyprus hit back when Lawrenson could only block a shot from Kissonergis and Filipos Pantzarias followed up to score. But the Irish were soon back in front through McGee — defender Lysandrou helped the ball in — after David O'Leary headed on a Brady cross.

Cyprus forced their first corner only in the 70th minute in a rare spell of pressure which ended in a goal from a penalty by Kaiafas after O'Leary was penalised.

Tel-Aviv — WORLD CUP, Euro group 6
Israel 0
N. Ireland 0
Att: 45,000. **Ref:** Glavina (Yug).

Israel: Haviv — G. Mahness, Shum, Bar, Avi Cohen, Turk, Spiegel, Y Cohen, Gariani (O. Mahness), Damti, Peretz.

N. Ireland: Jennings — J. Nicholl, Nelson, C. Nicholl, J. O'Neill, M. O'Neill, McIlroy, Cassidy, Finney (Spence), Armstrong, Cochrane.

IN a game plagued by floodlight failures it was the brilliance of Pat Jennings which kept Northern Ireland all-square. The nearest the Irish came was a fierce Sammy McIlroy shot in the 38th minute which drew a fine save from Haviv.

Liverpool's Avi Cohen was among the best of the Israelis, whose bombardment of Jennings began in the 12th minute with a shot from skipper Gideon Damti. Jennings saved well, and again later at the feet of substitute Mahness. Only once was he beaten and on that occasion Rifat Turk's free-kick rebounded off the bar from 30 yards.

Sofia
Bulgaria 1 (C. Tsvetkov 18)
Russia 3 (Cherenkov 33, Chelevadze 60, 65).
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 25,000.

Bulgaria: Velinov — Tsvetanov, B. Dimitrov, Karakolev, G. Dimitrov, Kostov, Velitchkov, Toskov, Jeliaskov, P. Tsvetkov, C. Tsvetkov.

Russia: Dassaev — Rodin (Sulakvelidze 75), Khidiatulin, Chevadze, Romantsev, Cherenkov (Fedorenko 59), Bessonov, Shavlo (Oganesian 62), Gavrilov (Siderov 82), Andreyev, Chelevadze.

A nothing sort of game for the Bulgarians, but a warm-up for a mixed Soviet team trying out several members of the Olympic squad.

Didier Christophe (left) of France faces Schoenecker of Holland in their 0-0 draw.

Paris
France 0
Holland 0
Att: 47,000. **Ref:** Casarin (It).

France: Dropsy — Janvion, Specht, Tresor, Bossis — Bathenay (Rampillon 64), Christophe (Tusseaue 78), Platini — Couriol, Pécout, Six (Rouyer 71).

Holland: Schrijvers — Wijnstekers, Balkenstein (W. Van der Kerkhof 46), Krol, Hovenkamp — Shoenaker, Stevens, Thijssen — Rep, Kist (Nanninga 73), Vermeulen (R. Van der Kerkhof 46).

MORE than a warm-up for the European finals for Holland, there was the fascination of seeing two prospective World Cup group rivals shaping up.

And if there were no goals at least the French fans had plenty of reassurance about their team of tomorrow. With Maxime Bossis sound as ever in defence, Marius Tresor fit again, and Christophe and Platini completing with Bathenay one of the potent midfield trios in Europe.

Platini, after the setbacks of the UEFA Cup and Borussia Moenchengladbach, was once again the man for the big occasion, giving the Dutch plenty to think about.

But the French star was new right-winger Alain Couriol from Monaco. "He can become one of the best in Europe," said Hugo Hovenkamp after an unusually tiring evening. Couriol might even have grabbed a last-gasp winner, but his shot flew just the wrong side of the upright.

Early on the French might have had a couple of penalties, first when Wijnstekers bundled into Six, then when goalkeeper Schrijvers tripped Janvion in clearing the ball from the raiding right-back's feet.

The nearest to a goal was in the 77th minute, when Pécout, alone in front of Schrijvers, delayed too long and saw the ball scrambled away.

Holland never had such an opportunity themselves. Indeed, there was almost a hint that they were saving something in reserve. Yet there was little hint that Zwartkrius has sorted out a basic team for the European finals.

Budapest
Hungary 2 (Fazekas 3, Torocsik 22)
Poland 1 (Lato 23)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Gullossy (Rom).

Hungary: Meszaros — Torok, Balint, Kereki, J. Toth, Salamon, Muller, Zombori, Fazekas, Torocsik, Varadi.

Poland: Mlynarczyk — Dziuba, Zmuda, Janas, Motyka — Lipka, Vojcicki, Miloszewics — Lato, Iwan, Palasz.

ANDRAS Torocsik made his international comeback at last and provided manager Karoly Lakat with something to cheer, grabbing the vital second goal which carried the Hungarians to victory.

The last two years for Torocsik have been hell. World Cup expulsion, international suspension, then serious injuries in a car crash. Now perhaps Torocsik can get back to concentrating on his football and help lift Hungary out of their post-European championship doldrums.

As for Poland, the suspicion must be that this was one of the last internationals of their goal-scorer, Grzegorz Lato. No longer irresistible in the league and rapidly running down his international reputation, he can no longer carry the attack single-handed. Manager Ryszard Kulesza has a lot of work ahead.

Barcelona
Spain 0
England 2 (Woodcock 17, Francis 65)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Roth (WG).

Spain: Arconada — Urquiaga, Migueli, Alesanco (Olmo 66), Gordillo — Guisasola, Saura (Diego 46), Uria — Dani, Satrustegui, Juanito (Carrasco 46).

England: Shilton — Neal (Hughes 82), Thompson, Watson, Mills — Coppell, Keegan, Kennedy, Wilkins — Woodcock, Francis (Cunningham 77).

ENGLAND were a class better than an oddly-selected, unbalanced Spanish side. Ladislao Kubala had stuffed midfield and defence with workers, but provided no one with the midfield skill and authority to weld his men into a unit.

The predictable consequence was a game in which, had it not been for the exceptional goalkeeping of Luis Arconada, the Spaniards would have been swamped by the skill and penetration of Woodcock and Francis, selflessly supported as they were by Keegan, Kennedy, Coppell and Wilkins.

It was Coppell who created the opener for Woodcock — his shot going between Urquiaga's legs — and also the clincher for Francis, setting England up in the right spirit to go on towards Italy. Even self-effacing manager Ron Greenwood had to admit afterwards that on this form England looked a good bet for the European crown.

As for Kubala, cross-questioned afterwards about how he was going to convert this unsuited bunch into European challengers, he murmured to those who wanted to hear: "If you think this bunch are all going to Italy then you need your head read!"

Basel
Switzerland 2 (Sulser 39 pen, Barberis 61)
Czechoslovakia 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Brummeier (Aus).

Switzerland: Engel — Wehrli, Zappa, Coutaz, Bizzini — Heinz Hermann, Barberis, Andrey — Pfister (Maissen 42), Brigger (Schnyder 46), Sulser.

● *Continued overleaf*

● *Continued from previous page*

Czechoslovakia: Keketi — Barmos (Vojacek 46), Ondrus, Jurkemik, Gögh — Kozak, Pollak (Strapek 46), Dobias, Panenka, Masny, Nehoda.
THE European champions went home moaning about the penalty which began their downfall, but the Swiss were the more lively team for most of the match and deserved their win.

The controversial penalty followed incidents at both ends when a spot kick could have been awarded. First Joko Pfister was pushed in the back going up for a cross then, at the other end, Zappa broke down a Czech attack only thanks to a misplaced foot.

It was in the 39th minute when Barberis sent Pfister away to home in on Keketi, who took away the Swiss forward's legs in his attempt to scramble after the ball. Claudio Sulser scored from the spot.

Barberis it was who grabbed No 2, smashing a 25-yard drive home after Maissen had nipped down the wing and then been forced to pull the ball way back because Sulser and Co were too tightly marked inside the penalty box.

With some quick thinking goalkeeping from the recalled Karl Engel the Swiss then held on.

"That was the difference between us," said Czech boss Josef Venglos. "Engel gave a class performance and Keketi made an unfortunate error of judgment for that second goal. I was disappointed with the whole team, though, not just Keketi. I thought we should have got among the goals.

"The Swiss made it tough for us by sitting back so much in the second half. They gave us the initiative but we didn't know how to handle the situation."

The worry for Venglos is that his ageing team — five men over 30 and two not far off — may have started to crack at just the wrong moment, just over two months from the title defence in Italy.

Esch
Luxembourg 0
Uruguay 1 (Victorino 69)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 1,500. **Ref:** Eschweiler (WG).

Luxembourg: Moes — Jungbluth, Roman, Zuang, Neunier, Weis, Philipp, Wagner (Reiter 76), Dresch, Di Domenico (Hoscheid 76), Braun.

Uruguay: Goyen — Moreira, Caceres, Jorge Gonzalez, Washington, Reyes (Caillava 70), Ortiz, De la Pena, Bica (Victorino 46), Arias, Ramos (Paz 46).
AS goal scorer Waldemar Victorino said afterwards: "If we hadn't won this one we wouldn't have been able to go home."

The game was dull but at least the Uruguayans had no need to resort to unfair play this time and there were no bookings or expulsions. Even so Luxembourg won 'on corners' — forcing five themselves against three for the South Americans.

Hampden — Euro Ch'ship group two
Scotland 4 (Dalglish 7, Gray 25, Archibald 68, Gemmill 83 pen)
Portugal 1 (Gomes 75)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,233. **Ref:** Wurtz (Fr).

Scotland: Rough — Burley, Narey, Hansen, McGrain, Souness, McLeish, Gemmill, Dalglish (Archibald 48), Gray, Robertson (Provan 75).

Portugal: Bento — Teixeira, Humberto, Simoes, Alberto — Frasco (Manuel 77), Eurico (Sheu 35), Costa — Nene, Jordao, Gomes.
A meaningless victory in one sense, since Belgium had already won the European group. On the other hand, since Scotland and Portugal must meet in the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers, the result had psychological value.

John Robertson and Andy Gray laid on a fine first goal for Kenny Dalglish, and Gray — Wolves' League Cup Final hero — hit the second with an astonishing shot after determined ball-gathering in midfield by newcomer Alex McLeish.

The listless Portuguese had a 'goal' by Jordao surprisingly refused on the half hour but staged a dramatic recovery at the start of the second half. First Nene, looking yards offside, ran through but, having run wide of the goalkeeper, was robbed by Hansen. Then Frasco sent a left foot volley high over the bar from close range.

They paid the price. Gemmill laid on Scotland's third for substitute Steve Archibald, and scored the fourth himself from a penalty after referee Wurtz peculiarly conjured up a foul on Gray. In between, Manuel Gomes scored the Portuguese consolation after a neat backheel from Frasco.

OLYMPIC qualifiers — *European group 2: Mar. 13* (Brescia): Italy 5 (Fanna 6, 68, Ancelotti 7, Altobelli 36 pen, Sacchetti 52), Turkey 0. *Mar. 26* (Mostar): Yugoslavia 5 (Primorac 15, 20, Mirocevic 55, Sliskovic 84, 85), Italy 2 (Baresi 32, Fanna 33). *European group 3: Mar. 5* (Almeria): Spain 2 (Quique 48, Rubio 89), Belgium 0. *Mar. 19* (Limoges): France 3 (Couriol 9, 67, Lemoult 42), Belgium 1 (Hoste 38 pen).

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CH'SHIP — *Quarter-finals, 1st leg: Mar. 26* (Budapest): Hungary 2 (Dajka, Sepegi), E. Germany 0. *2nd leg: Mar. 5* (Aberdeen): Scotland 0, England 0 (England 2-1 on agg.). *1st leg: Mar. 26* (Nitra): Czechoslovakia 1, Yugoslavia 1.

OTHER MATCHES — *Mar. 2* (Kuwait): Kuwait A 2, Hertha Berlin 0. *Mar. 4* (Kuwait): Kuwait B 1, Hertha Berlin 2. *Mar. 6:* E. Germany Olym. 2 (Schnuphase, Bahringer), Slavia Prague 0. *Mar. 11* (Budapest): Hungary Olym. 1, E. Germany Olym. 1. *Mar. 12* (Vevey): Switzerland 4 (Sulser 42, 57, Schnyder 44, Egli 89), Sion 0. *Mar. 17* (Dublin): Lge of Ireland 2 (Walsh 4, Flanagan 20), Scottish Lge 1 (Sinclair 48). *Mar. 18* (Belfast): Irish Lge 2 (Mullan 27, McCurdy 80), Scottish Lge 4 (McNamara 25, Somner 53, Ritchie 60 pen, Melrose 68). *Mar. 19* (Salszburg): Austria 1 (Krankl 56), Stuttgart Kickers 1 (Stichler 88). *Mar. 25* (Lucerne): Switzerland U-23 3 (Mauron 37, 73, Egli 68), Czechoslovakia B 1 (Homola 5). *Mar. 26* (Sunderland): England B 1 (Sunderland 79), Spain U-23 0; (Radom): Poland B 2, Hungary B 1.

CHAMPIONS' CUP
Quarter-finals, second legs (March 19)

Ajax 4 (Schoenaker 33, Arnesen 36, Lerby 57, La Ling 87)
Strasbourg 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 48,000. **Ref:** Courtney (Eng).
Ajax win 4-0 on agg

Ajax: Schrijvers — Meustege, Krol, Zwamborn, Boeve — Schoenaker, Arnesen, Lerby — La Ling, Jensen, Tahamata.

Strasbourg: Dropsy — Jodar, Novi, Specht, Domenech — Deutschmann (Gentes 70), Marx, Decastel — Tanter, Piasecki, Bracci.
THREE-times winners Ajax found the going fairly easy. In the first minute Wim Meustege set the tone with a long cross which Dominique Dropsy had difficulty turning away for a corner and Piet Schrijvers didn't get a touch of the ball until the 21st minute.

Ajax hadn't been playing well in the league but with skipper Rudi Krol in inspiring form they soon steamrollered the French. Krol started the move which led to the first goal, giving Boeve the chance to catch Dropsy out of position with a centre which Schoenaker turned into an empty net. Three more minutes and Frank Arnesen had the second, created again by Krol.

Battling the atmosphere, a two-goal deficit and the wind was too much for Strasbourg. They might have had a second half penalty when Domenech, on a rare raid, was roughly halted by Meustege. But already Krol had laid on a third for Soren Lerby, and the Dane in turn created the last for Tscheu La Ling.

"Ajax haven't taught me anything new," said Strasbourg boss Gilbert Gress. He might have learned a little about diplomacy from one event however. It was ridiculous — and a source of misunderstanding among his team — that out-of-favour Argentine striker Carlos Bianchi travelled to the match separately with a group of award sponsors!

Dynamo E. Berlin 1 (Terletzky 59 pen)
Nottingham Forest 3 (Francis 15, 35, Robertson 38 pen)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Delmer (Fr).
Forest 3-2 on agg

Dynamo: Rudwaleit — Noack, Trieloff, Troppa, Artur Ullrich, Terletzky, Strasser, Riediger, Pelka, Netz, Brillat.

Forest: Shilton — Anderson, Lloyd, Needham, Gray, O'Neill, Bowyer, McGovern, Birtles, Francis, Robertson.
AFTER soaking up some opening pressure from Dynamo without too many problems, Forest hit back in superb style to still all their critics and win the tie remarkably.

First Dave Needham headed on a Larry Lloyd free kick for Trevor Francis to poke the ball over the line, then Martin O'Neill gave Francis the chance to shoot in off the underside of the bar — a controversial goal, though the French officials had no doubt the ball crossed the line.

Three minutes later Noack tripped John Robertson, who converted the penalty.

Dynamo came back after the interval to claim a goal of their own — a Terletzky penalty — after a reciprocal trip by Robertson on Noack, but that was their lot. Riediger headed against the bar 10 minutes later and five minutes from time Netz was so close.

But without the guiding hand of the veteran Lauck in midfield, the East Germans never displayed the composure of the first leg and Forest were well worth their place in the last four.

Hajduk Split 3 (Zlatko Vujovic 21, Djordjevic 49, Primorac 88)
Hamburg 2 (Hrubesch 2, Hieronymus 24)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Dörflinger (Swz).
Hamburg on away goals – 3-3 on agg

Hajduk: Pudar — Zoran Vujovic, Primorac, Rozic, Muzinic — Krsticevic, Gudelj (Maricic 62), Surjak — Zlatko Vujovic, Djordjevic, Cop (Salov 62).

Hamburg: Kargus — Kaltz, Buljan, Hartwig, Hidien — Memering, Hieronymus (Nogly 62), Magath, Keegan — Hrubesch, Milewski.
HAMBURG took the wind out of the Slavs' sails with Horst Hrubesch's quick opening goal after Primorac failed to deal with a long through pass from Manni Kaltz.

Hajduk hit back fast. Surjak made life tough for Kaltz down the left and Rudi Kargus needed to be at his best, along with ex-Hadjuk sweeper Ivan Buljan. Primorac shot too high from close range before Zlatko Vujovic struck the equaliser.

Poor Primorac. It wasn't his night. One more minute and Kaltz pulled Surjak over. But Primorac didn't put enough force behind his spot kick and Kargus enhanced his reputation for penalty saves.

Yet another minute and the Slavs paid a heavy price. Hieronymus flicked the ball over Primorac with his right foot and struck home a second goal with his left.

Hajduk began the second half knowing they needed three goals to win the tie. They threw everyone forward, yet it took an error of judgment from Kargus before Djordjevic equalised on the night.

Hamburg coach Branko Zebec took off the young Hieronymus to send on experienced defender Nogly and, thanks to the efforts of Magath in midfield, and Kaltz and Co in defence, the Germans hung on. Buljan once had to clear off the line but by the time Primorac finally did get his name on the scoresheet, two minutes from time, it was too late. Hamburg had squeaked through on the away goals rule.

Real Madrid 3 (Santillana 44, Stielike 56, Juanito 86)
Celtic 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 110,000. **Ref:** Palotai (Hun).
Madrid 3-2 on agg

Madrid: Garcia Remon — Sabido (Isidro 43), Benito, Pirri, Camacho — Angel, Del Bosque, Stielike (Garcia Hernandez 88) — Juanito, Santillana, Cunningham.

Celtic: Latchford — Sneddon, McAdams, McGrain, McDonald, Aitken, Provan, Lennox, McCluskey (Burns 61), McLeod, Doyle.
IT was one of those special events only Madrid can stage. Celtic manager Billy McNeill had warned after the first leg that the Scots still had a long way to go to make the last four, and his caution proved well justified.

Yet before Madrid fell into a pattern, Celtic could have increased their first leg lead. Doing all they could to deny Madrid the midfield space to create trouble, they pushed forward and after

Doyle missed an open goal in the fifth minute, McCluskey hit the bar in the 19th.

It looked ominous for the Spaniards but just before the interval — with perfect timing — came the first hammer blow. And it was Laurie Cunningham who had a vital part to play, as he would in the game's remaining goals.

Celtic failed to clear his corner from the right and in the scramble Santillana stabbed the ball home.

"That was crucial," said Madrid coach Bujadin Boskov later. "Celtic were playing better here than in Glasgow. Perhaps it was a good thing that we had to wait for the first goal. If we had scored earlier Celtic would have come back quickly at us. As it was they didn't have the chance because of half-time."

Ten minutes after the restart Madrid were level on aggregate. The magisterial Del Bosque found Cunningham with one of his typically accurate passes and, when the Englishman's centre flew over, Santillana nodded back for Uli Stielike to shoot past Peter Latchford for the best goal of the game.

Already Pirri had had one 'goal' refused by Hungarian referee Karoly Palotai but in the end it didn't matter. While Garcia Remon was less and less worried by Celtic's breaks as the match went on, so the eventual winner fell to Juanito four minutes from time.

Cunningham slipped the ball down the wing for Angel, and his clipped centre was nodded in by the little right winger.

"Celtic played well and were a bit unlucky at times," said Cunningham afterwards. "But then, so were we."

Spanish goalkeeper Arconada saves from Trevor Francis during England's 2-0 win in Barcelona.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Quarter-finals, second leg (March 19)

IFK Gothenburg 0
Arsenal 0
Att: 40,044. **Ref:** Redelfs (WG).
Arsenal 5-1 on agg

IFK: Olafsson — Olausson, Hyssen, Karlsson, Holm, Schiller, Carlsson, Holmgren, Stroemberg, Svensson, Nilsson.

Arsenal: Jennings — Devine, Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Price, Brady, Rix, Vaessen, Stapleton.

THE tie had been decided at Highbury and the most anxious moments of the trip for Arsenal were the landings at the airport when the landing gear electrics developed a fault and provoked the emergency procedures.

In the event the plane landed safely and Pat Jennings and Co found little else to worry them on the trip.

Arsenal's Paul Vaessen had a 'goal' disallowed for offside after 11 minutes, but IFK hit back and Arsenal had to clear off the line just before half-time. After the break Torbjorn Nilsson and then Ruben Svensson saw close-range efforts stopped by Jennings, who also saved well from Glenn Holm's 20-yard free kick.

Juventus 2 (Causio 5, Bettega 72)
Rijeka 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Tokat (Turk).
Juventus 2-0 on agg.

Juventus: Zoff — Gentile, Brio, Scirea, Cabrini — Furino, Causio, Tardelli — Marocchino, Bettega, Virdis (Prandelli 65)

Rijeka: Ravnic — Milenkovic, Hrstic, Juricic, Jerolimov, Sugar (Pegic 85), Makin, Radovic, Mijac, Ruzic, Lukic (Tomic 24).

FRANCO Causio and Roberto Bettega weren't only the goalscorers, they were the outstanding players on a night when Juventus provided Italy with rare progress in Europe to distract attention from the match fix scandal.

They made a fine start, with Causio smashing a Furino free kick past Ravnic after only five minutes. But after that the Slavs reorganised their defence with efficiency if not a lot of class and the Italians grew jittery.

One goal would have been enough to send Rijeka through on the away goals rule and that counterattack threat very nearly came off in the 11th minute when Dino Zoff pushed a shot from Ruzic for a corner after appearing unsighted and moving very late.

For Juventus Cabrini and Bettega made life unpleasant for Ravnic but it wasn't until after young midfielder Prandelli had substituted for striker Virdis — having a disastrous night — that Juventus finally put the jigsaw together to make the game safe.

Causio was the creator, Bettega the finisher, his rapier thrust on goal leaving the Yugoslav defenders scrambling among themselves.

Nantes 2 (Michel 43, Touré 65)
Moscow Dynamo 3 (Minaev 23, Gazzayev 41, Kolosov 88)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 17,500. **Ref:** Corver (Hol).
Nantes 4-3 on agg

Nantes: Bertrand-Demanes — Bossis, Rio, E. Trossero, Tusseau — Baronchelli, Michel, Muller — V. Trossero (Touré 58), Pecout, Rampillon.

Dynamo: Pilgui — Lovchev, Novikov (Yakubik 88), Nikulin, Makhovikov — Bubnov, Maksimenkov, Petrushin — Minaev, Kolosov, Gazzayev.

BEATEN 2-0 at home, the Russians had nothing to lose and set about Nantes as if confident in their ability to turn the tie upside down.

For the French, skipper Henri Michel was unlucky to see a shot blocked by Eric Pecout, his own centre forward, in the 10th minute. But at the other end Gazzayev was making life tough for Maxime Bossis and it was the striker's centre which was turned into goal No 1 by Minaev.

Gazzayev levelled the aggregate himself with a low shot which surprised Bertrand-Demanes and the French would have been in all sorts of trouble had Michel not taken the captain's role minutes later, latching on to Rampillon's pass, and crashing a shot past Pilgui from 25 yards.

In the second half the Russians lost much of their momentum. Jose Touré equalised seven minutes after appearing in place of Victor Trossero and though Kolosov slipped away through the right in the dying minutes, Nantes had made it to their first European semi-finals.

Valencia 4 (Saura 10, 77, Bonhof 29, Kempes 85 pen)
Barcelona 3 (Canito 15, 88, Landaburu 16)
HT: 2-2. **Att:** 65,000. **Ref:** Michelotti (It).
Valencia 5-3 on agg

Valencia: Manzanedo — Carrete, Tendillo, Arias, Botubot — Solsona, Bonhof, Subirats, Saura — Kempes, Pablo.

Barcelona: Artola — Ramos, Migueli, Olmo, De la Cruz — Landaburu, Canito, Rexach — Martinez (Zuviria 48), Simonsen, Carrasco (Esteban 53).

OUT went the holders — but not until after the most dramatic of contests!

New Barcelona boss Helenio Herrera, appointed after the first leg home defeat, brought back several of the forgotten but experienced reserves in a bid to save the tie. Full-backs Ramos and De la Cruz, Carlos Rexach and Martinez further forward had long been out of favour under Joaquin Rife's regime.

It was a gamble, but one which looked like paying off in the early stages — as did the use of ex-Espanol defender Canito as a makeshift centre-forward.

Valencia appeared home and dry when Enrique Saura put them ahead in the 10th minute, but two goals in a minute from Canito and Jesus Landaburu suddenly saw Barcelona in front on the away goals rule and had the crowd in a frenzy.

Just before Barcelona could establish a grip in midfield however, a disastrous back pass from Antonio Olmo let in Rainer Bonhof to square the score.

Still Barcelona wouldn't let it go. First Migueli then Simonsen kept Manzanedo busy but when Pablo laid on another for Saura and the midfielder was flattened a few minutes after to provide Kempes with a penalty goal, it looked all over.

Yet even then Barcelona bravely showed that whatever they may lack in cohesion and balance, they are short of nothing when it comes to spirit.

Migueli might have scored in a grand finale before Canito's brilliant solo — a gesture of defiance which warned anyone who wanted to know, that Barcelona won't be in the doldrums long.

UEFA CUP

Quarter-finals, second leg (March 19)

Bayern Munich 4 (D. Hoeness 35, 82, Janzon 60, Breitner 73 pen)
Kaiserslautern 1 (Wendt 12)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 32,500. **Ref:** Doudine (Bul).
Bayern 4-2 on agg

Bayern: Junghans — Weiner, Augenthaler, Dremmler, Horsmann — Dürnberger, Kraus, Breitner, Oblak (Janzon 46) — D. Hoeness, Rummenigge.

Kaiserslautern: Hellström — Melzer, Neues, Briegel, Dusek — Geye, Riedl, Bongartz, Groh — Wendt, Brummer.

THE clubs' third meeting in a fortnight — they'd also clashed in the league — provided plenty of drama to keep the fans happy, starting with the 12th-minute Benny Wendt goal, in a scramble after a Bongartz corner, which threatened to put an end to Bayern's dreams of new European glories.

Two goals down overall, it wasn't until the 35th minute that Dieter Hoeness took Dürnberger's pass to pull Bayern back into the game.

● *Continued overleaf*

LEAGUE TABLES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
River Plate	7	5	2	0	15	4	12
Argentinos Juniors	6	4	2	0	16	8	10
Newell's Old Boys	7	3	3	1	13	4	9
Independiente	7	4	1	2	18	11	9
Union Sta Fe	7	3	2	2	11	9	8
Racing Club	7	3	2	2	5	3	8
Talleres Cordoba	7	2	4	1	10	9	8
FC Oeste	6	3	1	2	10	9	7
Quilmes	7	1	5	1	7	6	7
Platense	7	2	3	2	6	8	7
Colon Sta Fe	6	1	4	1	9	9	6
Huracan	6	1	3	2	8	12	5
Velez Sarsfield	6	2	1	3	8	12	5
Tigre	7	1	3	3	9	11	5
Estudiantes La Plata	7	0	5	2	7	10	5
Rosario Central	7	2	1	4	7	14	5
San Lorenzo	6	1	2	3	6	10	4
All Boys	6	0	3	3	4	8	3
Boca Juniors	7	1	1	5	9	21	3

VENEZUELA: Venezuela Cup

Group 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Galicia	3	2	1	0	6	1	5
Valencia	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Italia	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Atletico Falcon	3	1	0	2	3	6	2
Portugues	3	0	0	3	2	7	0

Group 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atletico Zamora	4	2	2	0	6	4	6
Lara	4	2	1	1	5	3	5
Tachira	4	1	3	0	3	2	5
Univ. Los Andes	4	1	1	2	1	2	3
Portuguesa	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
Estudiantes	4	0	2	2	3	6	2

*Group winners meet in final.

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Servette	21	13	5	3	51	21	31
Basel	21	11	7	3	45	18	29
Zürich	21	12	4	5	48	32	28
Grasshoppers	20	10	7	3	44	18	27
Luzern	21	12	3	6	36	31	27
St Gallen	21	8	6	7	39	28	22
Sion	21	7	8	6	34	32	22
Lausanne	21	7	4	10	28	30	18
Xamax	21	8	2	11	31	37	18
Chênois	21	4	9	8	29	34	17
Chiasso	21	4	9	8	24	41	17
Young Boys	21	6	4	11	28	43	16
Chaux-de-Fonds	20	3	7	10	18	48	13
Lugano	21	1	5	15	15	57	7

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern	29	18	6	5	67	29	42
Hamburger SV	29	17	7	5	76	31	41
VfB Stuttgart	29	16	5	8	65	43	37
Kaiserslautern	29	15	4	10	61	46	34
Cologne	29	12	8	9	64	49	32
Dortmund	29	12	6	11	54	48	30
Schalke	29	11	8	10	38	40	30
Frankfurt	29	14	0	15	57	52	28
Düsseldorf	29	11	6	12	55	61	28
Mönchengladbach	29	9	10	10	47	54	28
1860 Münich	29	9	9	11	37	42	27
Uerdingen	29	11	4	14	39	50	26
Leverkusen	29	9	8	12	34	51	26
Werder Bremen	29	11	3	15	45	72	25
Bochum	29	9	6	14	29	39	24
Duisberg	29	9	6	14	36	50	24
Hertha Berlin	29	7	7	15	30	53	21
Brunswick	29	6	7	16	29	53	19

HONDURAS: National Championship (after four games):
1. Maraton, Vida 7 pts; 3 España, Victoria 5; 5. Olimpia, Universidad 4; 7. Platense, Morazan 3; 9. Motagua 2; 10. Bronco 1.

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inter	27	13	12	2	38	19	38
Juventus	27	13	6	8	33	23	32
Fiorentina	27	10	11	6	31	22	31
Ascoli	27	10	11	6	28	22	31
Milan	27	11	8	8	26	18	30
Torino	27	8	13	6	21	14	29
Cagliari	27	8	12	7	24	25	28
Roma	27	9	10	8	30	32	28
Bologna	27	7	13	7	19	20	27
Avellino	27	7	13	7	23	27	27
Napoli	27	7	12	8	18	16	26
Perugia	27	7	12	8	23	27	26
Lazio	27	5	14	8	20	21	24
Udinese	27	3	14	10	21	33	20
Catanzaro	27	3	14	10	16	30	20
Pescara	27	4	7	16	16	38	15

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	31	21	5	5	74	38	47
AZ'67 Alkmaar	31	19	7	5	71	31	45
Feyenoord	30	15	11	4	54	28	41
PSV Eindhoven	31	15	8	8	56	35	38
Utrecht	31	13	9	9	44	32	35
Roda JC Kerkrade	31	14	7	10	47	41	35
Twente	31	14	6	11	42	40	34
Excelsior	31	10	10	11	52	53	30
Den Haag	31	10	9	12	35	38	29
Willem II	31	9	11	11	36	59	29
Go Ahead Deventer	31	11	5	15	44	46	27
MVV Maastricht	31	9	9	13	40	48	27
PEC Zwolle	31	8	8	15	31	40	24
Sparta Rotterdam	31	9	6	16	41	52	24
Vitesse	31	6	12	13	33	54	24
NEC Nijmegen	31	9	5	17	30	48	23
NEC Breda	30	8	6	16	28	53	22
Haarlem	31	6	10	15	36	58	22

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Bruges	31	20	6	5	66	30	46
Standard	31	19	7	5	75	29	45
Molenbeek	31	17	9	5	50	26	43
Lokeren	31	17	5	9	54	26	39
Anderlecht	31	10	5	10	60	31	37
Lierse	31	16	4	11	62	43	36
Waterschei	31	12	8	11	44	39	32
Beveren	31	11	10	10	36	37	32
CS Bruges	31	13	5	13	49	53	31
FC Liege	31	12	7	12	47	42	31
Winterslag	31	10	11	10	32	58	31
Waregem	31	9	11	11	32	39	29
Antwerp	31	9	8	14	39	41	26
Beerschot	31	8	10	13	36	44	26
Beringen	31	8	7	16	30	48	23
Berchem	31	6	11	14	36	54	23
Charleroi	31	7	5	19	19	63	19
Hasselt	31	2	5	24	18	82	9

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria/WAC	27	14	9	4	64	29	37
Grazer AK	27	13	8	6	34	27	34
Linzer ASK	27	11	11	5	41	26	33
VOeEST Linz	27	12	6	9	43	29	30
Austria Salzburg	27	11	6	10	31	40	28
Rapid	27	8	10	9	31	27	26
Admira/Wacker	27	7	9	11	27	46	23
Wiener SK	27	6	9	12	41	48	21
Sturm Graz	27	5	10	12	27	44	20
Vienna	27	7	4	16	29	52	18

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Dresden	22	18	1	3	54	19	37
Dynamo Berlin	22	16	3	3	59	15	35
Carl Zeiss Jena	22	11	5	6	35	20	27
Chemie Halle	22	11	4	7	31	27	26
Lok Leipzig	22	10	5	7	44	28	25
Magdeburg	22	10	5	7	35	28	25
Frankfurt/Oder	22	9	6	7	32	34	24
Sachsenring Zwickau	22	7	4	11	20	36	18
Erfurt	22	6	5	11	30	30	17
Karl-Marx-Stadt	22	5	6	11	23	36	16
Wismut Aue	22	6	4	12	22	35	16
Stahl Riesa	22	3	10	9	15	43	16
Union Berlin	22	5	4	13	13	32	14
Chemie Leipzig	22	4	6	12	21	49	14

● *Continued from previous page*

Coach Pal Csernai was certainly keeping on his toes. Midway through the first half he reorganised his marking to get a better grip on the dangerous Wendt, and at half-time he decided the time had already come to take off midfielder Oblak and send on super-sub Norbert Janzon.

The switch paid off brilliantly on the hour when Janzon headed in Rummenigge's corner. And though Bayern were still being beaten by virtue of the away goal rule, Kaiserslautern's defensive anxieties were more and more clearly revealed by the way they tried continually to reorganise their close-marking.

Yet it was a blunder by Swedish goalkeeper Ronnie Hellström — not having the best of seasons — which finally let Bayern in. Hellström, his mind perhaps distracted by business difficulties, failed to grasp a Janzon free kick and in the scrummage that followed Augenthaler was brought down.

Paul Breitner converted the penalty, Kaiserslautern now had to look for goals and Rummenigge sent in Hoeness to apply the finishing touch.

Lokomotiv Sofia 0
VfB Stuttgart 1 (Ohlicher 7)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Thomas (Wales)
Stuttgart 4-1 on agg

Lokomotiv: Goranov — Elenkow, Dimitrov, Jelev, Bonev — Arsson, Stefanov (Peitschev 46), Doitschev — Kolev, Sokolov (Vassilev 76), Dangov.

Stuttgart: Roleder — Martin, Holcer, K-H. Förster, B. Förster — Elmer (Jank 86), Hattenberger (Klotz 78), H. Müller — Kelsch, Ohlicher, Schmider.

SUSPENSIONS and injures meant Lokomtov went into battle without four key men against West Germans unsettled by the dressing-room row between star midfielder Hansi Müller and coach Lothar Buchmann — which would earn Buchmann the sack.

But when Schmider set up Ohlicher to open the scoring in the seventh minute, the match was virtually decided.

Dimitrov hit the bar after 14 minutes for the Bulgarians, Dangov twice came close in the second half and once Dragan Holcer had to clear off the line. But Stuttgart also had enough chances of their own never to look in serious danger of surrendering their lead.

Zbrojovka Brno 3 (Horny 10, Kotasek 88, Kopenec 89)
Eintracht Frankfurt 2 (Karger 18, Neuberger 77).
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Amundsen (Den)
Frankfurt 6-4 on agg

Brno: Hron — Mazura, Dvorak (Vojtek 78), Horny (Kotacek 78), Pertrtyl — Svoboda, Dosek, Jarusek — Janecka, Kroupa, Kopenec.

Frankfurt: Funk — Müller, Pezzey, Körbel, Lorant — Neuberger, Nickel, Borchers, Nachtweih — Karger (Lottermann 77), Cha (Ehrmanntraut 84).

EVEN without the injured Grabowski and Hölzenbein, Frankfurt were never seriously pressured. Brno went ahead when Horny headed in Kopenec's corner but eight minutes later Borchers forced goalkeeper Hron to drop a shot on to the well-placed head of Karger for the equaliser.

After that the Germans took command. Bum-kun Cha was causing a lot of trouble and both Dvorak and Petrtyl earned bookings for fouling the South Korean.

In the German goal Funk made a sharp stop from Janecka and though he was beaten twice in the closing minutes by Kotasek and Kopenec after Bruno Pezzey had first lost possession and then a heading duel, Neuberger had already got a second for Frankfurt which ensured their place in the last four.

Borussia Mg 2 (Tychosen 11, Hannes 14)
Saint-Etienne 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Rainea (Rom).
Borussia 6-1 on agg

Borussia: Kneib — Bödecker (Nielsen 46), Hannes, Schäffer, Ringels — Matthäus, Kulik, Schäfer — Tychonsen, Nickel, Lienen (Dell 'Haye 46).

Saint-Etienne: Curkovic — Janvion, Lopez, Santini, Farison — Elie, Larios, Platini — Rep, Roussey, Rocheteau.

SO confident were holders Borussia that they saved top forwards Nielsen and Dell'Haye for the second half. But by then the game, let alone the tie, was already decided. Early goals from Tychosen — set up by Lienen and Hannes — Nickel the creator — left the French high and dry.

Rocheteau and Platini had wasted good early chances and never again looked like worrying Wolfgang Kneib. The heart had gone out of their effort.

World SOCCER
NIKOLOUDIS Greece

Bayer Uerdingen